



# Using Short Simple Sentences

## How can I do this?

*Use only the keywords when talking to your child. This makes it easier for them to understand and provides them with something they can try and copy. If your child is using two-word sentences (e.g. mummy eating), then you model three-word sentences (e.g. mummy eating apple). In this way, you are reinforcing what they say as effective communication and teaching them new words.*

## In what situations can I use short simple sentences?

*This strategy can be used in any situation, in structured activities and everyday routines. Describe what your child is seeing, hearing, and doing. Talk about what you are seeing, hearing, and doing. You may like to try using simple sentences when playing and observing in the following situations:*

- Playtime activities • Storybooks • Cooking
- Games • Shopping • Outdoor Excursions
- Trip to the Zoo • At the Park • During mealtimes



## Examples of Short Simple Sentences:

Instead of:

"Now let's put all the blocks back in the box"

Try: "Blocks in box"



Instead of asking your child to say:

"Can I have a grape please"

Try: "Grape please"

Remember:

Respond positively to any attempts your child makes.

If praised, your child is more likely to try again.



Repeat yourself.

It takes both time and lots of repetition for children to learn to talk.