

# Supporting children to develop communication skills and general knowledge

The important adults in children's lives influence their development when they interact with them. Each interaction stimulates the child's developing brain and builds the foundations for their future.

Adults can support children's communications skills in lots of ways. Look at the ideas below to think about how you can make a positive impact.



## COMMUNICATION SKILLS AND GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

Children who are successful learners are able to communicate their needs and thoughts to adults and other children.

### Children become confident communicators by:

#### BABIES

Listening to people talk, read, and sing



Blowing raspberries and making new sounds

Imitating faces

#### TODDLERS

Practicing talking to attentive adults



Listening to people talk, read, and sing and joining in

Hearing new and different words

#### CHILDREN

Reading new and interesting books



Telling stories to someone who is really listening

Having help with tricky words

### Children learn about their world by:

Listening to parents talk about the world



Learning new words

Seeing new things

Taking part in familiar routines



Looking at pictures of their day and telling stories

Guessing what comes next

Visiting the library



Talking about their ideas

Going to new places

### Parents can best support children's development in communication skills and general knowledge when they:

- Have access to quality early learning environments
- Are supported and have time to spend with their children

### Where you can get more information:



[www.raisingchildren.net.au](http://www.raisingchildren.net.au)  
[www.letsread.com.au](http://www.letsread.com.au)

### Who can help:

- Connect to your local playgroup
- Visit your local library and explore what they have for children
- Talk to your maternal child health nurse, GP or a speech pathologist
- Talk to your children's early years educators