

Why not try
this at home..?

Tips and ideas to help
you develop your toddler's
communication skills

Make a posting box in May

Find a cardboard box, a shoe box works well, and cut a hole in it so you can post pictures or objects through the hole into the box. Use objects that your child will recognise and know the name of, such as a toy car, a crayon and a spoon. Put the objects in front of you and your child and ask your child "which one shall we post?".

Encourage your child to name the item as they post it. Don't worry if they can't as the game is a chance to have fun together and for your child to begin to understand words and make choices. If your child points rather than using words, give them a choice by saying something like "shall we post the cup or the car?".

Linking words to objects is how children learn the names for things and it's how they start to use the words for themselves.

Tips



- Dig in the garden or woods with your child to see if you can find a worm. As you dig, talk about what you're doing and introduce new words.
- To help your child learn colours, when you're out and about, see who can spot the most cars in a certain colour.
- Learning to take turns will help your child with conversation skills. Try playing a game of football and take it in turns to kick the ball.



Cut me out and stick me
to your posting box

For more ideas and to find the other activity sheets in this series, go to
www.surreycc.gov.uk/earlylearning