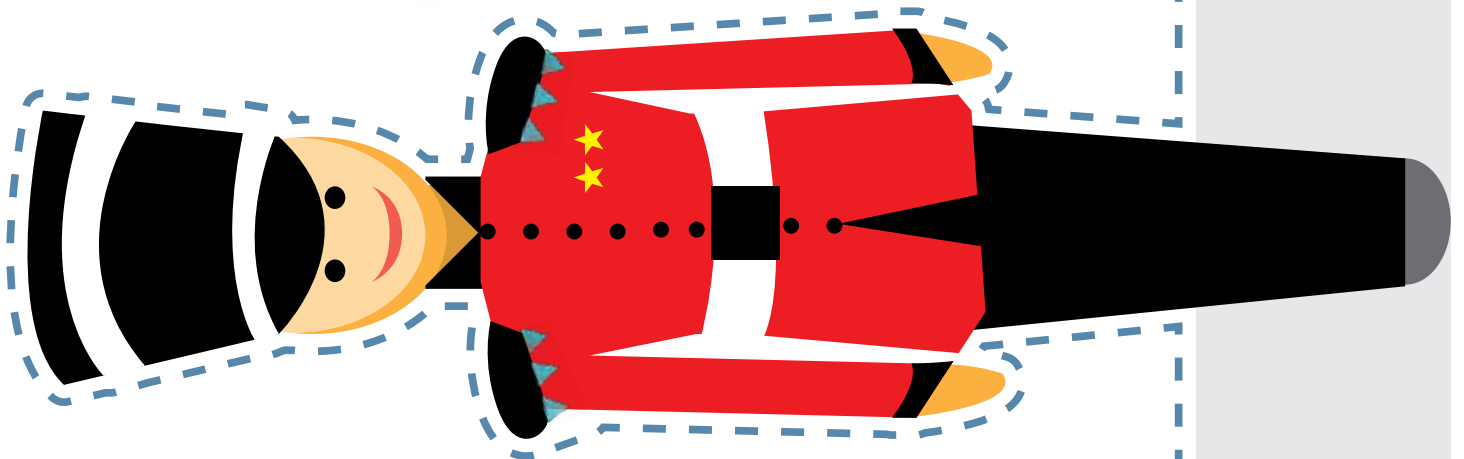


Why not try
this at home..?

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

Cut out your
own soldier



Be a marching soldier in August

Make an instrument shaker by filling a plastic bottle, tin or small box (secure the lid) with uncooked rice or dried peas. Encourage your child to march around the room while you shake the shaker. When the shaker stops, ask your child to stop and stand up straight like a soldier.

Children like to be in control so you could take it in turns to shake the shaker and march. You could do fast and slow marching or loud and quiet shaking.

If you can show your child how to be a good listener, your child will learn an essential skill for talking and learning.

TIPS



- Make a little track for a car or train and use words like in, on, under, over, round, through, behind, in front, up, down and along, to describe the position.
- Establishing a beat is very important for language and early reading skills. Encourage your child to bang a wooden spoon against a saucepan and march to the beat.
- Look for a dandelion flower that has turned to seeds, often called a dandelion clock. Can your child blow a dandelion clock? Each time they blow say the time (for example, one o'clock, two o'clock) until there are no seeds left.

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

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