

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

> Cut me out and use me to decorate your car

Make your own car in December

Find a large cardboard box to turn into a car and decorate it together. You could draw wheels or use paper plates, use silver foil for headlights and put a cushion inside to make a seat. Encourage your child to think and talk about where they will go on their adventure, who they will take with them and what they might see on the way.

By developing this type of imaginative and interactive play you are helping your child develop important skills for communication, such as taking it in turns to speak, making eye contact and listening.



- Have fun with your child saying words that rhyme such as hat, splat, fat, chat, cat, mat and flat. Rhyming is important in developing early reading skills.
- Help your child learn words to describe shapes and sizes, by giving them different boxes. Talk about what will fit in the boxes.
- Practice taking turns with your child by dropping objects down different sized tubes and talking about what fits. Learning to take turns will help your child with conversation skills.

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

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