

➤ When you are playing, let the child be in charge of the game sometimes and tell you what to do.

➤ Get the child to say more by pretending you don't understand and giving them an alternative, e.g. Parent "put the dolly in the bed or on the chair?" Child "in the bed"

Books and puzzles:

Look at these together and talk about the pictures or pieces. Make noises that fit them. Get the child to name them by giving a choice "is it a cat or dog?" Get them to find things, "where's the ball?"

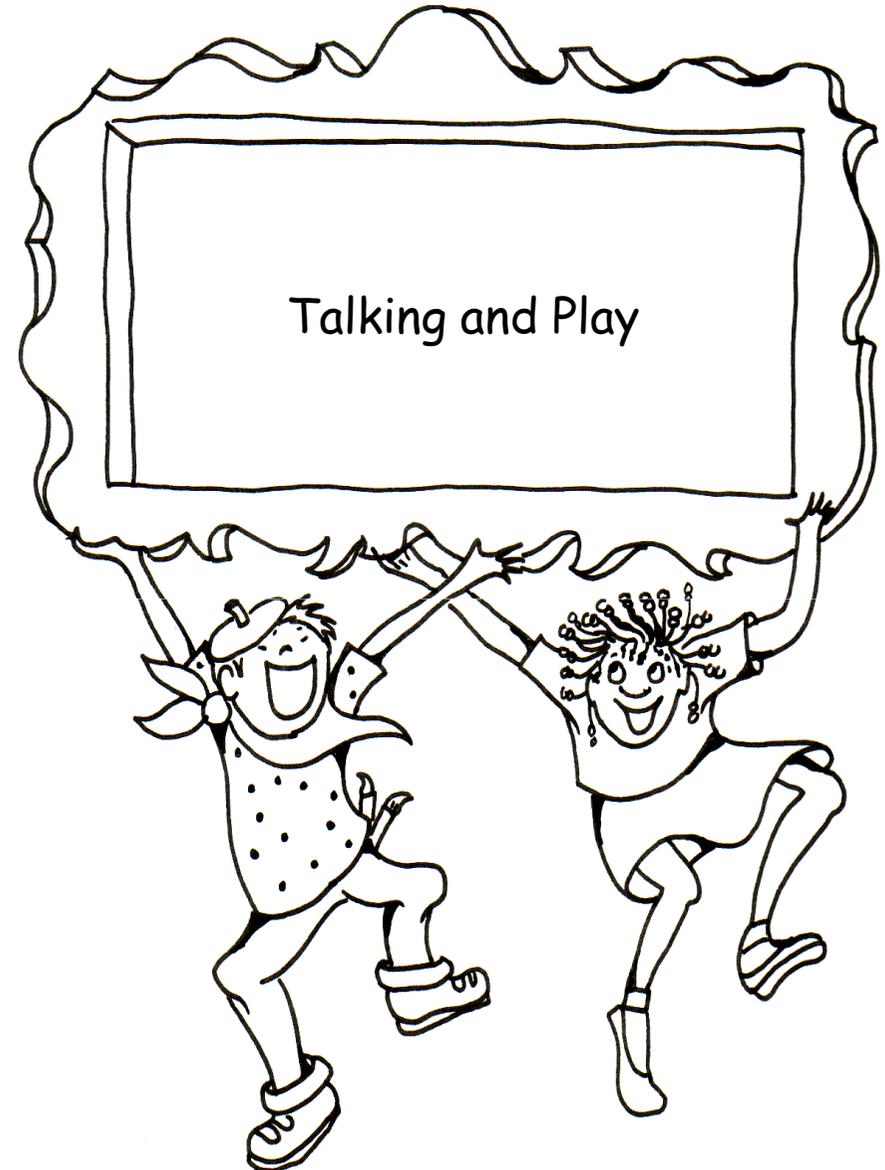
Toys with actions

Cars are good toys to encourage phrases and action words e.g. "push car" "car crash!" If the child says "car" talk about what the car is doing by adding one extra word e.g. "car gone!"

➤ When it's tidy up time, name the toy as you put it away, or get them to name it.

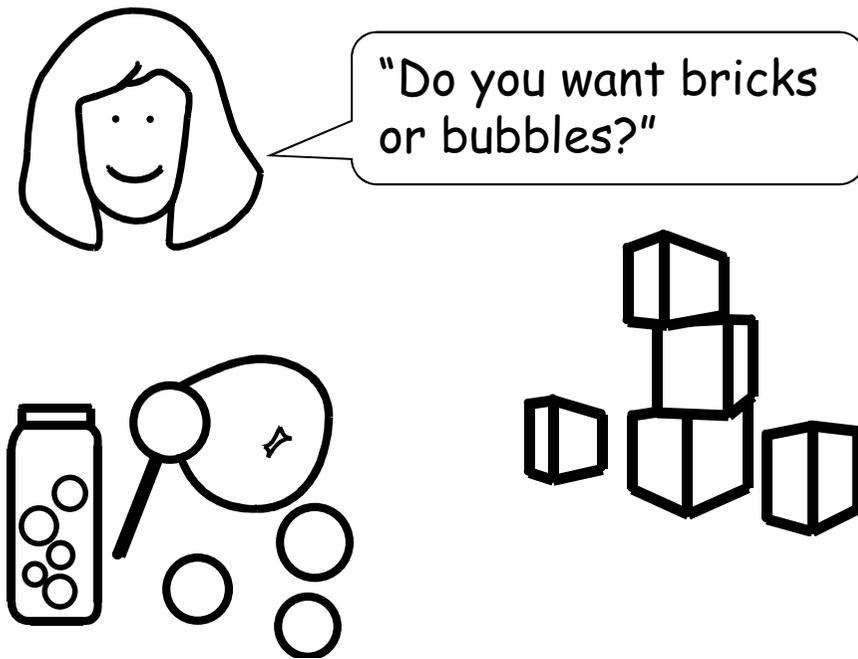
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Speech and Language Therapy Department

- Show your child how to play as part of your daily routine.
- Don't try to take over the child's play, but show them ideas of what could be done with the toys.
- You need to say the words that go with what they are doing.
- Give a choice of games to encourage requesting.



## Bubbles:

Use them to encourage words such as more / gone, e.g. "more bubbles?" or "bubbles gone!" You can use words about size e.g. "big bubbles" or "small bubbles"

## Dolls and teddies:

It is helpful to each have a teddy and a doll so your child can copy your play.

Pretend to - feed them

give them a drink

dress them

wash them

put them to bed

Whilst you play talk about the toys, name their clothes, body parts and talk about what they are doing e.g. washing, eating, drinking, eating etc.