

## Attention and Listening // Reception

### Helpful Tips

Alternate between listening /quiet tasks and more active ones. Make frequent use of movement activities to allow energy release breaks between tasks e.g. star jumps, stretching etc.

Set time limits for the child to carry out activities, such as painting a picture or building with bricks. Use a sand timer to show how long the activity will last. Make the time more than achievable to start with, then gradually increase the length of time you expect the child to work for.



### Action Rhymes

Use action rhymes, such as head, shoulders knees and toes, or 10 fat sausages sizzling in a pan. Once the children are familiar with the actions that go with the rhyme, the teacher should speak and not do the actions.

### Find the Animal

Use pictures of animals and scatter them around the room. Make the animal sound and see if the child can find the matching animal.

### Table Top Games

Lotto games, card games (pairs, snap), and other table top games offer good opportunities for developing attention and listening. You can start by using a small number of cards (e.g. 3 pairs of cards to find), and build up to larger numbers of cards as the child's attention span develops.

### Musical bumps

- Play music or use a musical instrument
- When the music/noise stops, the children need to sit down as quickly as possible
- The last child to sit down needs to stand beside the adult and help to find the slowest child in the next round

