

Building Sentences // Age 1 - 2

Encourage children to describe pictures, their own actions or the actions of others **using 2 word phrases**, e.g. brushing hair, man walking, etc. If they give a 1 word answer try to expand this by modelling and showing the need for more information, e.g.

Child: 'Brush'

Adult: '**Brush** your **feet**? Brush

' and give your child chance to respond


Follow the Leader' game

Take turns to be the leader with the child and give 2 word commands for the other person to follow e.g. **touch** your **nose**, **open** the **door**, **shake** your **leg**, etc.

Encourage your child to be **more specific** when making a choice e.g.

Child: 'cake'

Adult – 'Which cake?' Child: 'Pink cake'

Child: 'ball'

Adult – 'Which ball?' Child: 'Big ball'

Make-a-book using pictures of words your child is using. Label the pictures using two words, e.g., 'blue ball'. Alternatively make a picture book together full of pictures of people/animals "doing things".



Model and emphasize 2 key word phrases during daily routines, for example:

- Dressing: when a child is dressing, possible 2-word sentence are: "**shoes on**", "**coat on**".
- Imaginary play varying nouns: go through a doll or teddy's parts of the body, e.g. "let's **wash** her **nose**", "let's **wash** her **arms**", etc., then: "let's **dry** her **feet**", "**dry** her **hair**", etc.
- Imaginary play varying verbs: "let's **push** **dolly**", "you're **cuddling** **dolly**", "**dolly's** **sleeping**", "**dolly's** **jumping**" etc.