

## Conversation and Interaction // Age 5-7

### Take turns

Copy your child's actions during play; this will encourage him/her to focus on your body language. Encourage turn taking within games which your child is interested in. This could include miming and guessing actions in a made up game. Ask your child to guess what you are doing e.g. making a cake, riding a bike, replacing a light bulb etc.

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### Imitating facial expressions in the mirror

You can encourage your child to increase eye contact and raise awareness of non-verbal communication during regular daily routines such as brushing teeth, getting dressed. Carry out this routine with your child in front of a mirror and change facial expressions, encourage him/her to match your facial expression e.g. frowning, laughing, showing teeth etc.

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### Role play

Encourage a range of role play situations within the home environment, both real life situations that your child may have experienced, and pretend situations such as acting out the first part of a story, then continuing this. Props may help the children take part in the role play. For example play with dolls and teddies taking part in daily routines. Heroes and villains building dens and castles etc.

