

Understanding Language // Aged 12 – 18 months

Use and repeat single words in real life situations so your baby can gradually link the word to its meaning.

Babies need to hear words lots of times to learn what they mean.



Talk to your baby about what you are doing (**running commentary**) e.g., preparing lunch, preparing bath time, putting your coat and shoes on to go out so they will link words with actions

Your baby will start communicating with you in a wide range of ways:

- Reaching for items
- Pointing to things
- Watching and focusing their attention on favourite toys or games
- Waving, nodding and shaking his/her head



Make comments when your child is communicating with you in these ways, for example 'Oh you want your **bear**. Here's your **bear**'. This shows them you have understood what they want, and gives them the language they could use themselves when they are ready.