

# BOOK SHARING

When children are first learning to talk, they often use single words like “ball,” “drink,” or “mummy.” To help them move on to early sentences, we can gently support their language by adding just one more word to what they say. This shows them how to build up their phrases in a natural, simple way.

For example: If your child says “car”, you can say: “Yes, big car”. If they say “drink”, you can say: “More drink” or “Drink juice”

This helps your child:

- Hear how words go together
- Learn new words in context
- Start using 2- and 3-word phrases like “go car,” “mummy eat,” or “more juice”



## EQUIPMENT

You will need:

- A book / books of your child's choice

## OTHER WAYS TO PLAY

Toy Tidying Game:

As you tidy toys together, label what your child says and add one word.

Child: “Ball” → You: “Big ball!”

Child: “Car” → You: “Blue car!”

Child: “Teddy” → You: “Bye-bye teddy!”

This makes everyday routines into simple language-building moments.

Snack Chat:

Use snack time to talk about what your child is eating.

- Child: “Banana” → You: “Yummy banana!”
- Child: “More” → You: “More crackers!”
- Child points to drink → You: “Drink juice!”

Repetition during daily routines helps words stick.

## HOW TO PLAY

Settle down to share a book. Rather than ‘reading’ it to your child, follow their lead and see what they want to talk about and then try ‘adding one more’.

1. When your child names something:

Book picture: A dog

Child says: “Dog”

You say: “Big dog!” / “Brown dog” / “Dog sleeping”

2. When your child makes a sound:

Book picture: A cow

Child says: “Moo!”

You say: “Cow says moo!” / “Moo cow!”

3. When your child uses a simple word:

Book picture: A baby

Child says: “Baby”

You say: “Baby sleeping” / “Baby crying” / “Baby drink”

4. When your child repeats a word from you:

Book picture: A car

You say: “Car”

Child says: “Car”

You say: “Fast car” / “Car go!”