

HAVING FUN TOGETHER THROUGH INTENSIVE INTERACTION

Find a space where you can spend time with your child without distractions. It doesn't have to be a long time but needs to be a special time just for you and them. It is a nice idea if you can do this for a short time each day (10- 20 mins is enough)

During these special times your child will practise their communication and have fun with you. Some of the things they might learn are my sounds have meaning, turn taking, I am important, using and understanding eye contact, enjoying being with another person, play skills and sharing personal space.

WHAT DO YOU DO ?

You need to wait and see what they do.

You do not use the time to teach a skill.

You can copy their facial expressions.

You can copy their sounds.

You can copy their actions.

You can just sit quietly together and enjoy each others company.

HOW DOES THIS MAKE YOUR CHILD FEEL ?

They feel important when you copy them

They feel that you are listening to them

They are learning that their vocalisations have meaning.

They feel in control and free to choose

They like having fun together.

They are learning how to communicate and understand their emotions

If your child likes twiddling or twirling something you can twiddle and twirl the same thing whilst sitting or standing alongside them.

The important thing is that your child leads the way and you follow their lead.

By tuning into what they are doing you are really listening to them and developing their self esteem and communication skills.

