





# Supporting Speech, Language and Communication Development: Parent Workshop



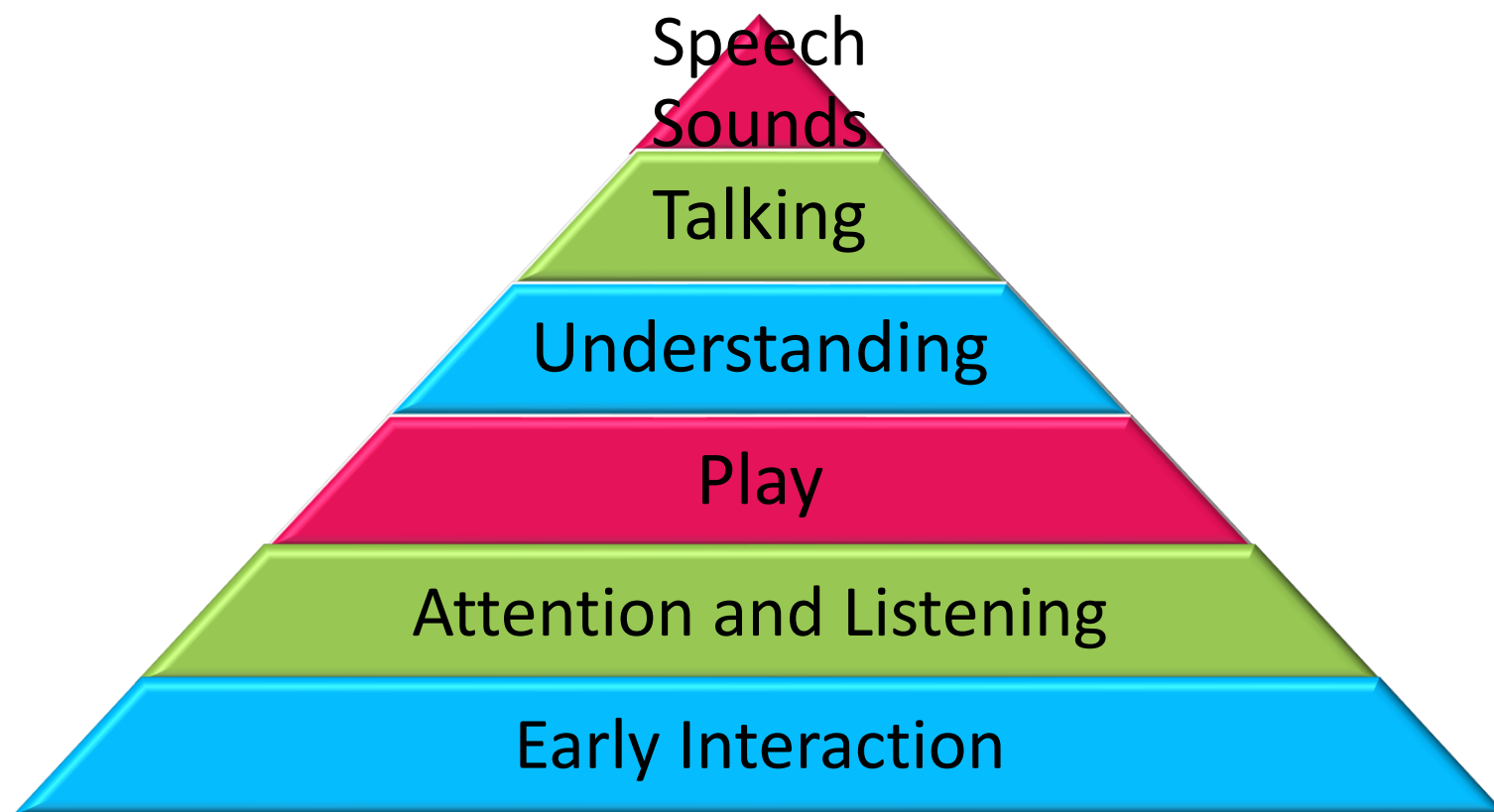
# What we will cover

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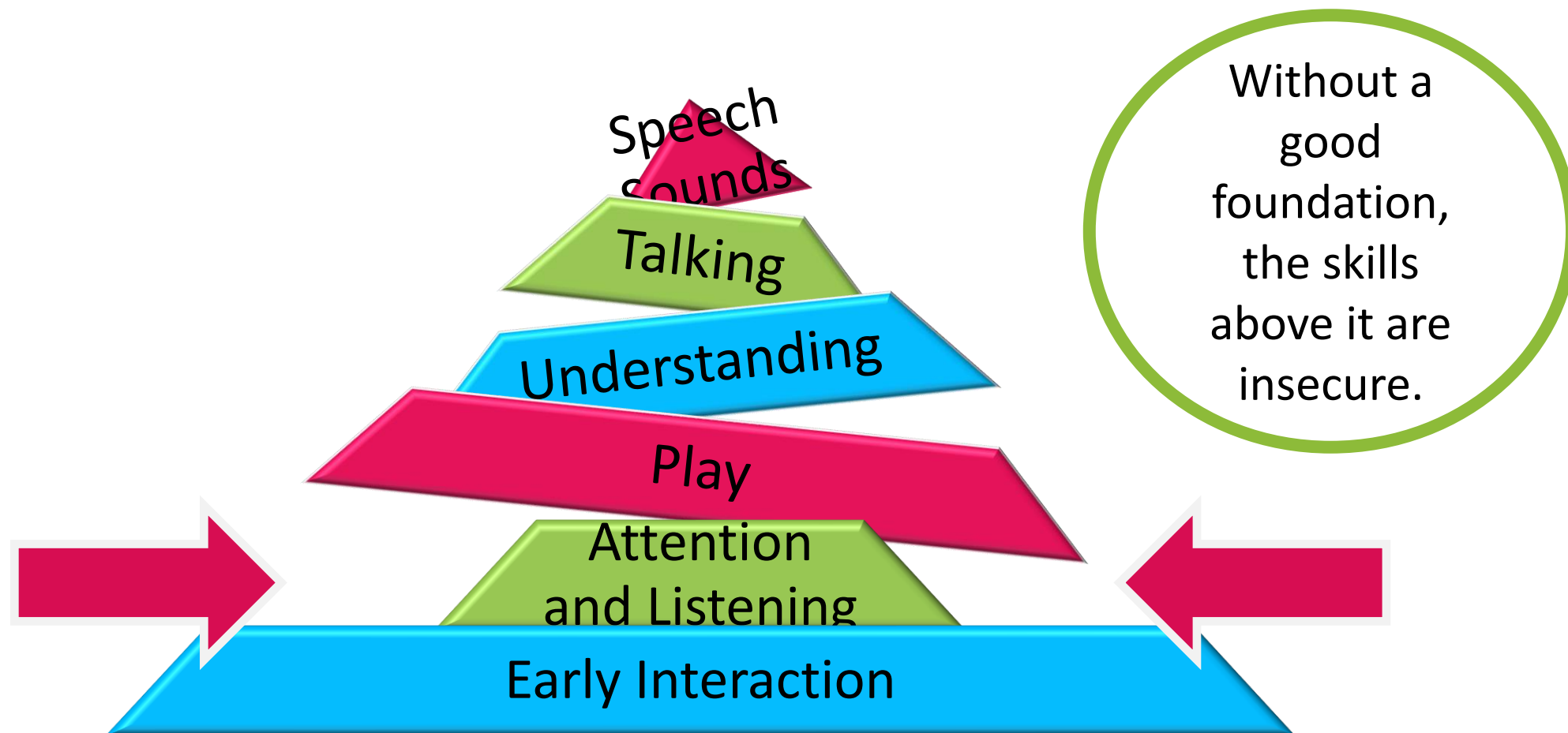
-  What is speech, language and communication?
-  What is considered typical development?
-  How you can support your child
-  What additional support is available

# Communication Pyramid

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# Communication Pyramid



# What is Attention and Listening?

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**Attention** is the ability to take notice of something.


**Listening** is the ability to give your attention to a particular sound, word or sentence.


# Typical Attention and Listening Development

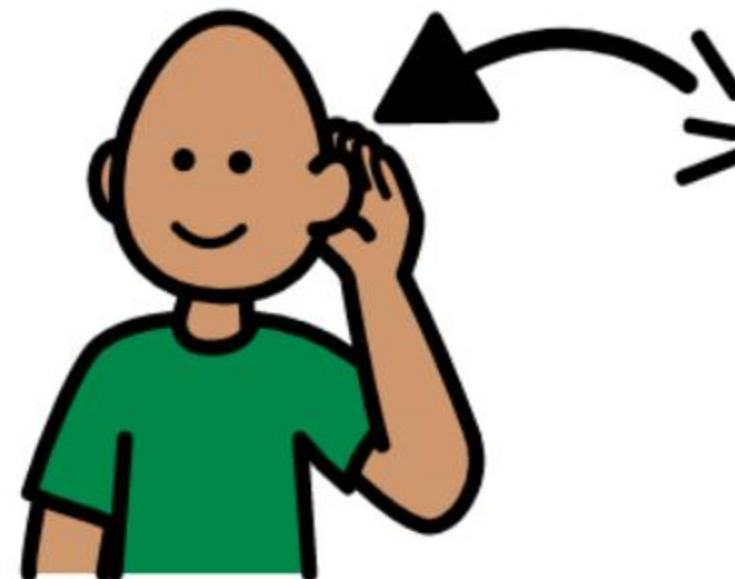
Typical Age	Stage of Attention
0-12 months	Attention is held for a short time on something they can hear, see or touch. The child is easily distracted.
1-2 years	Can engage within an activity of their choice and can 'ignore' other noises or items in order to focus.
2-3 years	Continues to focus on one thing at a time, but can shift their attention to an adult, often with support.
3-4 years	The child is now able to control their own attention but continues to just focus on one activity, item or person at a time.
4-5 years	The child can do two things at once – complete a task and listen to an instruction at the same time.
5-6 years	The child's attention skills are well established and they can sustain their attention on a range of tasks.

# Helpful Tips

 **Follow the child's lead:** Children will attend longer to an activity they have chosen because it is motivating for them, so join in with what they are doing and use their interests.

 **Be interesting:** Use exciting activities and resources (often the messier the better!) and exaggerated facial expressions and change the tone and volume of your voice.

 **Get down to the child's level:** Being face to face makes it easier for the child to see your facial expressions and to switch his attention between you and an activity.



# What is language comprehension?

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 Understanding language

 This requires understanding words and sentences and attributing meaning

 You might also hear it called 'receptive language'

# Typical Comprehension Development


Age	Receptive Language skills
1-2 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1-2 key word sentences/phrases</li> <li>• Understands at least 300 words</li> </ul>
2-3 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2-3 key word sentences/phrases</li> <li>• 'what' and 'where' questions</li> <li>• Some simple contrasting concepts (e.g. hot/cold, stop/go)</li> <li>• Understands 500-900 words</li> </ul>
3-4 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3-4 key word sentences/phrases</li> <li>• 'who' questions</li> <li>• Understands 1,200 – 2,000 words</li> </ul>
4-5 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understands at least 10,000 words</li> <li>• 'how' questions</li> <li>• Understands colour/shape words</li> <li>• Can sort objects into simple categories (e.g. animals, food)</li> </ul>

# Helpful Tips

 **Use visual aids** - Reinforce spoken instructions with the use of visual aids e.g. objects, gesture, pictures, symbols, photographs etc.

 **Repeat** instructions if necessary.

 **Pause and wait** - some children need 10 seconds to process language and respond.

 **Give directions in the right order** - share instructions in the order in which you want the child to carry them out e.g. 'put your shoes on then line up at the door' rather than 'before you line up at the door, put your shoes on'.







# What is Talking?

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**Using language to communicate wants, needs, thoughts and opinions.**

Also known as expressive language.





Expressive language involves:

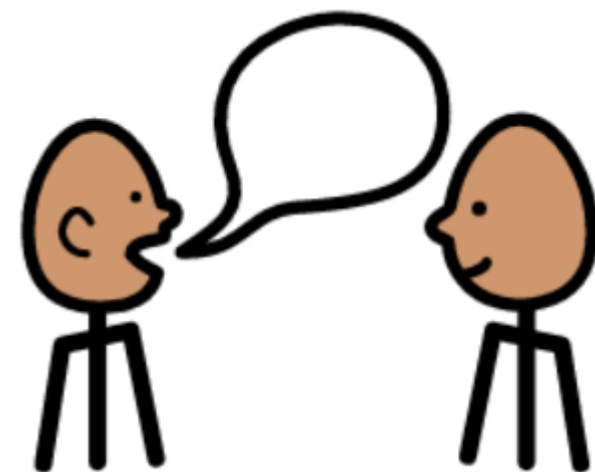
-  Having thoughts and ideas
-  Using the right words
-  Putting words into a sentence
-  Communicating effectively with someone else

# Typical Expressive Language Development

Typical Age	Use of Language
2 years	Children have around 50 words. They can use this within 2 word phrases. For example, 'give juice' or 'mummy gone'.
3 years	Children have a large vocabulary (around 300 words). They use these words within 3-4 word sentences to talk about space and time. For example, 'teddy is in the box' and 'it's sunny today'.
4 years	Children use longer sentences containing tenses. They start to link events together using 'because', 'and' and 'but'. They also start to ask questions. For example, 'I jumped in the mud and Daddy jumped in the puddle'.
5 years	Children can take turns within conversation, comment on the meaning of words and tell simple stories. For example, 'yesterday, I went to the swimming pool with Daddy and then we went to McDonalds for tea'.

# Helpful Tips

-  **Be a detective** – Think about what your child is saying and model and extend language.
-  **Make comments** – Aim for at least 3 comments to every 1 question. Use simple language for this in line with your child's level of development.
-  **Pause and wait** – give your child time to think about what they want to say and how to say it.
-  **Follow your child's lead** – allow them to guide what you are playing with, reading or talk about. Use simple language to narrate the shared activity.



# What is Speech?

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**As therapists we make a distinction between ‘speech’ and ‘language’.**


Speech refers to how we make sounds, it focuses on the ‘mechanics’ or movements we make to produce speech. The use of accurate speech involves different skills.


Speech is different to language.

# Typical Speech Development

Typical Age	Speech Sounds
3 years	<p>p, b, m, t, d, n, k, g, ng (as in ring), h, w, y</p> <p>They are likely to make some errors in their speech, this is very typical for children of this age!</p>
4 years	<p>And f, v, s, z</p> <p>They will be starting to use clusters, such as 'sp,' 'st' 'sl'.</p>
5 years	<p>Sh, ch, j, v, th (thick) and th (this)</p> <p>They will also be able to realise more challenging blends, including, 'kl', 'gl', 'fl', 'br', 'gr' and 'dr'.</p>

# Helpful Tips

 **Be a detective** – Think about what your child is saying and model back the correct way to say the word. Don't make them say it back to you.

 **Listen out for sounds** – listen out for specific sounds in the environment. For example, 'who can hear an airplane?' or 'what animal can we hear?'.

 **Listening games** - you can also play games such as musical statues or Simon Says.

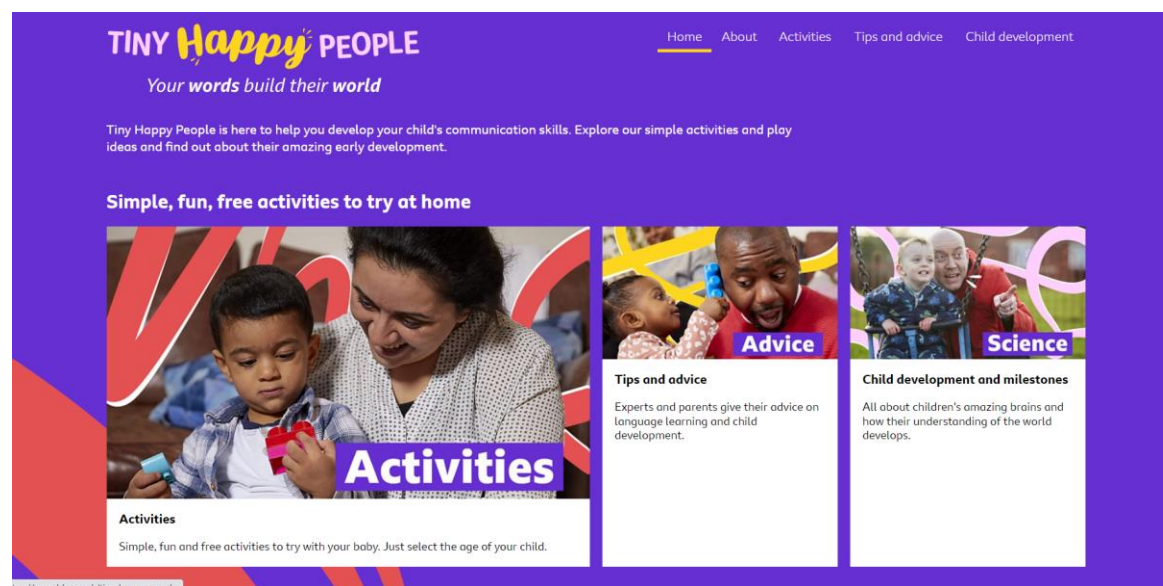
 **Copy sounds or rhythms** – use instruments to make different sounds, see if you can copy each other.

 **Play sound games** – play games such as I Spy, rhyming games



# Where can you find helpful information?

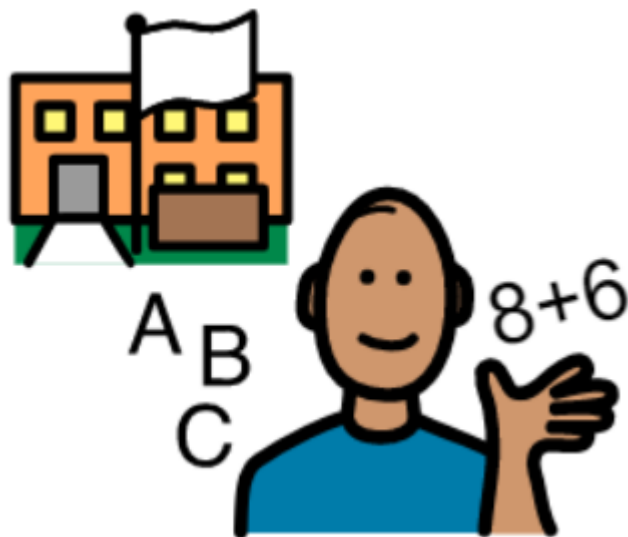
## Our favourite website:



Tiny Happy People  
<https://www.bbc.co.uk/tiny-happy-people>

# If you need some extra help...

If you feel that you still need extra support or further assessment for your child, you can contact:



Your child's class teacher



Speech and Language Therapy

The NHS Speech and Language  
Therapy Service

# Any questions?

