

# Encouraging Language

## For this activity :

Making the most of everyday activities to listen and talk more with our children to encourage language development.



## What is the learning in this activity?

**Ages:** for parents and carers of children aged 8 months plus

**Purpose:** This is a simple and helpful reminder that we play an important role in encouraging language and literacy in our children through play and through everyday moments

## Listening & Talking More

1. Anywhere, anytime – putting clothes away, where's the sock ? Whose hat ?
2. Give choices, start conversations and take turns – “would you like a cup of tea”? “Which fruit would you like”? “I like banana, tell me which one you like”
3. Be clear, exaggerate and repeat (children love doing things over and over) - “building a tower, build it up, build it up, build it higher, build it up, up, up into the sky”
4. Describe, label and ask – “oh...you chose the red block” “Would you like to pour the tea”? “Your turn, my turn now”.



## Let's talk..

Smalltalk Program: <https://www.smalltalk.net.au/parent-materials/listening-and-talking-more-2/>

<https://www.smalltalk.net.au/listening-and-talking-more-with-your-toddler-video/>

*We'd love to see your creations and home based play.*

*Share with us at: @YarraRangesFamilies #YarraRangesPlay*

You can contact the YRC Family & Children's Services team on 1300 368 333 or by email at [earlyyears@yarraranges.vic.gov.au](mailto:earlyyears@yarraranges.vic.gov.au)