

Developing Oral Language with your child

Top Ten Tips for Parents /Guardians



Infants – 1 st Class	2 nd and 4 th Class	5 th and 6 th Class
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listen to what your child is saying /trying to say and respond to contributions • Make and maintain eye contact while talking with your child • Explain the meaning of words • Talk through activities • Talk through everyday experiences • Involve your child in discussions / plans • Ask / Answer questions • Teach your child nursery rhymes / songs / poems/ raps • Develop your child's receptive language by asking him/her to follow simple instructions • Assist your child to express ideas in an orderly fluent way • Read to your child each night 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set aside 10-15 minutes to discuss the day's happenings • Encourage your child to express and justify opinions • Involve your child in adult conversation when appropriate • Talk about the child's favourite T.V programme • Play language games which focus on words i.e. Scrabble, crosswords • Encourage your child to talk about experiences with a wide range of people ; peers, relations, other adults • Listen carefully and clarify meaning 'Do you mean /or is this what you mean?' • Encourage your child to give reasons for decisions • Encourage your child to listen courteously to the opinions of others • Talk about school topics and assignments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Encourage your child to develop a positive attitude to speaking / listening • Discuss your child's school work successes/concerns/interests. • Respect your child's opinions and feelings • Involve your child in adult conversations, when appropriate • Help your child to extend his range of words in specialised subjects • Encourage your child to listen and respond courteously to others. • Watch and discuss T.V. news / current affairs programmes together • Assist your child to locate information in local library, internet • Talk about school topics and assignments • Play commercial games that focus on word building