Speech and Language Therapy

**More Early Attention
Lesson number 2 of 14 on Attention and Listening**

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Stop, Look and Listen

For children who are at the early stages of development it is essential that adults take time to:

Stop - Value the opportunities for development that observing gives you. Some pupils can take more than 10 seconds to form a response to changes in their environment.

Look - Observe the child's reactions to changes around them.

Listen - Respond to their reactions and signals.

Respond to messages the child is giving you. Do what the child is 'asking'.

By doing this, the child will learn that 'if I do X, Y will happen'.

Comment on what the child is doing or looking at. Use one or two word simple phrases.

Following My Lead

The child MUST lead the interaction or play.

When the child is in charge of the interaction or play they are more likely to engage and attend.

First **observe** what the child is doing.

Then you can:

- **Copy**
- **Join in**

Then **Stop, Look and Listen!**

Adult Communication Strategies

Things to try during special time...

1 - Allow the child to choose the toy and follow what they want to do

2 - Sit where your child can see me (being face to face).

3 - Watch what the child is doing- What are they focused on, interested in and/or trying to tell you?

4 - Wait and pay attention to any interactive lead by the child.

5 - Listen carefully to the messages the child is trying to convey with their actions, behaviours or words.

6 - Respond to messages the child is trying to convey (e.g. I like this/ I want this/ I don't like this/ I don't want this) accordingly by doing what the child 'asks'.

7 - Talk about what the child was doing using simple words? (name things, repeat words, make short, simple comments)

8 - Use enthusiasm in my voice so that it sounds interesting and shows excitement

In one sentence, what have you noticed in your play this week?

When I..,

my child... .

Then I ....,

And my child ....

Special Time Diary

Date:

We learnt about

_____

When my adult

_____

_____

I...

_____

_____

Insert picture