



PUTTING TWO WORDS TOGETHER

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Here are some ideas for encouraging your child to put two words together. Remember, at first, that your child may not use exactly the same words as you eg you might say 'mummy's washing' whilst your child might say 'mummy wash'.

Pretend play activities using tea sets, farm animals, playmobile etc provide good opportunities for talking. Remember to keep your language simple:

eg *'more tea'*, *'wash cup'*,
'cow sleeping', *'horse jumping'*.



Add a word to a word your child can already use:

eg if he says *'cup'* you can say *'mummy's cup'*
or *'Thomas's cup'* etc.

It is important to give your child opportunities to talk. It is a good idea to use your daily routines as opportunities to model simple language:

eg getting dressed *'pants on, socks off'*; getting washed *'wash hands, wash tummy'*.



Some words are good for combining to make first sentences:

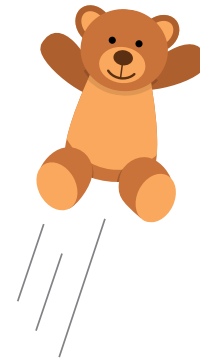
eg more, bye bye, and gone: *'more biscuit'*,
'teddy gone' and *'bye bye daddy'*.



While playing with your child make his toys do things

eg *teddy jumping, dolly sleeping.*

Talk together about what they are doing. Involve your child in activities so they learn by doing rather than watching.



Most sentences include a doing word (verb). As you are doing things together at home, talk about what is happening.

eg *'mummy reading'* or *'dog drinking'* etc.

When you are looking at pictures in books, talk about what is happening instead of just naming them.

eg *'look a big car', 'look a man walking'.*



Offer alternatives. Say *'do you want a big cup or a little cup?'* or *'juice please or milk please'.*

Finally, it may take a little while for your child to start putting two words together. Try not to be discouraged and keep modelling simple two word phrases as described above.