

Ready Steady Go Games

Developing children's attention and listening skills is a foundation for learning and effective communication. Ready Steady Go games are great for building joint attention and anticipation, your child will begin to know that after the word 'go' there will be a physical response.

These games are also great for encouraging waiting and turn taking.

- **Knocking down a tower of bricks.**
- **Whooshing cars down ramps/slides**
- **A game of blowing bubbles**
- **Having a race**
- **Playing on a swing in the garden**
- **Rolling/kicking a ball**
- **Marble runs**
- **Pop up toys**
- **Rocket toys that fly into the sky**
- **Spinning toys**
- **Light up**
- **Musical toys**



Top Tips

1. Ensure your positioning is down at the child's level.
2. Try pausing before saying the word 'go', this builds your child's anticipation but also gives them an opportunity to respond themselves and fill the gap. Accept all efforts of them communicating whether this is verbal or with some brief eye contact and then model the language before the action.
3. Remember that waiting and turn taking are tricky skills to learn so initially keep the waiting to a minimum, so your child doesn't lose interest and move onto something else.
4. Start with just you and your child so this game and notion of turn taking is well practiced before inviting others to join.
5. Keep animated – We want this activity to be motivating enough for your child to want to join you.
6. You can try expanding vocabulary, rather than 'ready steady... go' try 'ready steady... pop', or 'ready steady... jump'.
7. Encouraging your child to make a request for the activity to be repeated by prompting 'more?' and wait for your child to respond. Acknowledge any efforts your child makes to request, this could look like them pulling your hand, making sounds or giving eye contact. You can model the word 'more' before repeating the action.

