

## Supporting Sounds Development (For children who are not yet saying words)

### Playing with Sounds

- The babble of babies is the way they learn which sounds their mouths can make and how to combine them into words
- Children with delayed speech and language skills are less likely to indulge in the sound play needed to move on to words
- Your child needs to continue to play with sounds before they can move on to a wider repertoire of words.

During play with your child, use plenty of sounds.

In time your child will copy these sounds.

Here are some ideas (you can use your imagination too):

**Cars:** “mmmm” – car, “vvvv” – van, “ch-ch-ch” – train,  
“woo- woo” – siren, “nnnn” – plane

**Animals:** “ee-ee” – mouse, “moo” – cow, “baa” – sheep,  
“oo-oo” – monkey, “ssss” – snake

**Tea Set:** “sh” – pouring drink, “mmmm” – good  
“l” – licking lolly, “er” – yuck!

**Dolls:** “ar” – cleaning teeth/doctors, “ow” – hurt  
“sh” – sleeping

**Music:** “dddd” – banging drum, “kkkk” – castanets,  
“bbbb” – bouncing ball

**Playdough:** “rrrr” – rolling playdough, “ssss” snakes

**Dressing:** “zzzz” – zip, “pppp” – poppers/buttons

- Use a sound and give your child time to make it
- Copy the sounds your child makes
- Don't stop using words but remember the aim is for your child to copy your sounds to increase his/her repertoire.