

## Extending your child's language!

### Match + 1

You can encourage your child's language using "Match + 1"

#### What does this mean?

- Try to expand on what your child has said by matching what they say and adding a word.

#### How do I do this?

- If your child says "cat"

**You *match* what they say and + one more word: "Cat sleeping"**

- Child says "Mummy Car"

**You *match* what they say and + one more word "Mummy's Blue Car"**

- Child says "Tractor go fast"

**You *match* what they say and + one more word "*big* tractor goes fast"**

Remember it is not important to correct the child's grammar at this point; just use the opportunity to match and extend their vocabulary as well as modelling the language you want them to be hearing and making connections to the world around them.

#### Top tip!

Try to add *verbs* (doing words) e.g. 'running', 'eating', 'sleeping' as these are essential language '*building blocks*', from which children can later build longer, more complex sentences.