

The Commenting Approach



You may have noticed our display boards on arrival to Acorn Room and in Oak Room which promotes adults using the 'Commenting Approach' with children. This is where an adult comments on what a child is doing rather than asking lots of questions which can put a child under pressure. We like to think of it as filling up a bucket with lots of exciting words such as objects, actions, describing words and feelings.

When playing and interacting with your child at home, try to keep the number of questions to a minimum. We use 'The Hand Rule' using 4 comments (fingers) to 1 question (thumb). By making comments instead you are feeding your child language and filling up that bucket!

For example: If you see a cat out of your window instead of asking "What's that?" You could say... "Look, a cat" or "The cat is sleeping" or "I see a black cat".

Remember, your child has to hear words to learn language!