

## To respond to their name:

- Using different voices
- Using songs.
- Using pictures- take a picture of the child and every time you call their name point to the picture of the child.

## To interact with their peers:

- Encouraging turn taking, when you are playing with the child 'one for me, one for you'. Could also use 'my turn, your turn'.
- Modelling the child's play; for example using play dough sand and water.
- Modelling an activity of the child's interest with other children.

# Top Play Tips for children with Social and Communication Difficulties

Educational Psychology  
Service



Salford City Council



This Leaflet is aimed at practitioners working in early years child care facilities. It outlines some activities for children with Social and Communication Difficulties.



### Developing Eye contact

Activities:

- Using and following bubbles.
- Watching coloured lights (a disco ball or a lava lamp).
- Holding toys close to your eye so.
- Using mirrors.
- Putting glasses/sunglasses on.
- Using Ipad apps.
- Using a camera.

### Making Choices:

- Providing the child with choices using prompts such as choice boards.
- Using photos to help the child identify what toy they want.

### Developing Language Activities:

- Commenting on the child's play (descriptive play).
- Singing nursery rhymes, try this on a one to one basis as well as in a group.
- Singing nursery rhymes that are repetitive and build up anticipation such as 'Peekaboo', 'Sleeping Bunnies' and 'Row Row Your Boat'.
- Using role play with puppets and telephones.
- Using animals to model animal noises; use songs and adults to mirror the noises.
- Using simple language when talking to the child, speaking slowly and clearly. Pointing to objects when you talk about them.

