



Domain and goal

- Always uses voice when communicating
- Pairs voice with natural gestures when communicating

Activities

Tips to get your child talking

- If you haven't started, now is the time to respond to your child only when he uses his voice to communicate with you. If your child taps you, pulls you, gestures, or cries instead of using pleasant vocalisations, don't respond. Every time you acknowledge communication from your child without him using his voice, you are reinforcing the wrong message.
- When your child communicates non-vocally:
 - Ignore him and wait to see if he then uses his voice.
 - Don't look at him but acknowledge that you hear him and point to your ear stating **"I can't hear you"**.
 - If he still doesn't use his voice, provide a simple model for him to imitate, when he imitates, praise him and interact with him as requested.
- The main skill you want your child to learn is: always use your voice to communicate.
- Once your child vocalises to communicate with you, you can shape the vocalisation by providing a clear model at the appropriate level for your child to imitate. Your child will imitate various features of your model in the following developmental order:
 - Match duration or syllables
 - Match some vowel content
 - Match some consonants
 - Match some words within short phrases
 - Refined speech

Date	What did your child do?