



## Children's Speech & Language Therapy Service

### Putting Words Together

Information for parents and carers



Once your child is using single words throughout the day you can start to encourage them to join words together.

1. Model lots of different types of words throughout the day....

Naming words (nouns)  
e.g. dog, cat, sock, bag,  
cup, ball etc

Action words (verbs)  
e.g. eating, jump, read,  
drawing, painting, skip,  
hug, sleep

Words that describe  
e.g. hot, wet, soft, big,  
small, fast,

2. Repeat what your child says and expand by adding one extra word....



"Teddy"

"teddy...Jack's teddy"

"teddy...soft teddy"

"teddy...teddy is jumping"

3. Offer choices with short phrases "big car or little car?" "orange juice or apple juice?"

4. Using gestures can support joining words together, so if your child **says** "mummy" and **gestures** "up" to mean "mummy pick me up" accept their response and repeat it back as a sentence ("mummy up"). You could use gestures with your words too.

For more information visit [www.alderhey.nhs.uk](http://www.alderhey.nhs.uk) or talk to your Speech and Language Therapist.

This leaflet only gives general information. You must always discuss the individual treatment of your child with the appropriate member of staff. Do not rely on this leaflet alone for information about your child's treatment. This information can be made available in other languages and formats if requested.

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