A close up of a sign

Description automatically generated

**Top tip from our Speech and Language Therapy Partners:**

Be careful when asking questions. Don’t ask too many!

Keep your comments short and simple, this will keep the conversation more balanced.

However they communicate- respond positively.

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| --- | --- |
| **Make this simpler...**  Allow your child to simply explore their voice outdoors – can they shout very loudly? Whisper very quietly? | **Make this more challenging...**  You could help your child design and make a new megaphone or telephone you can use outdoors from things you can find in your recycling bin! |



**“The fun is in the journey, not the end result!”**

**Tips to support your child:**

* Help your child make the megaphones out of card, paper, or bottles. Talk to them about what they will be used for and if they think a big megaphone will make their voice louder than a smaller sized megaphone.
* You could demonstrate how these work to your child. Join in with their play!
* Use the speaking tubes to have a conversation with your child – you could explore how far away you can go before you can’t hear each other anymore!
* You could also use the tubes to sing some familiar songs/rhymes with your child.
* Use the appropriate language – loud, quiet, noisy, silent, shout, whisper, talk etc.
* You could set out an old telephone or two and allow your child to have both private (on their own) and shared conversations.

**The basic idea:** Outdoor play is the perfect opportunity for your child to make noise! Your child could try using different types of tubing to create a speaking tube and investigate how loud/quiet they are. You could also help him or her make their own megaphone by making cones or tubes from card/paper or cutting the end off of a bottle!

**How this benefits your child:**

* Your child can explore their voice outside in a variety of ways, from quiet conversation to shouting very loud. Doing so will help them find their voice and develop their communication skills.
* This activity will help develop your child’s listening skills and help them explore and develop an awareness of pitch and volume.
* As you talk and play with your child, you are helping to develop their vocabulary.

This is best:

Outdoors

Early Years Home Learning

Communication and Language  
**Speaking Out**

**Materials**

You may need:

* Paper or card
* Plastic bottles (different sizes)
* Tubing (cardboard, metal, plastic)
* An old telephone