

# COMMUNICATION FRIENDLY CHRISTMAS- NURSERY

Here are some ideas for you to try throughout December to encourage children to use communication and continue to develop their language skills!



Books, books, books – books can be used in many ways to develop language and early literacy skills. Read a Christmas story with your wee one and learn new vocabulary.



Music is also a great way to involve children and can be used in many ways to enhance speech and language. Music is good for getting children to listen, and experiencing a shared focus. Put on a Christmas CD and enjoy singing along to songs with your child.



Spend the day observing and commenting – when you are interacting with your child, take a step back, do not feel that you have to fill the silences, just comment on the things that they are doing so they can hear (and learn) the new vocabulary.



Design your own Christmas bauble with your wee one to hang on your tree – see how many describing words you can think of about the bauble you have made e.g. round, sparkly, shiny etc.



Describe what a reindeer looks like and draw a picture of one e.g. brown, furry, antlers etc.



Play hide and seek with your wee one. Use a shaker or noisy object to give each other clues—this is a fun way to boost their listening skills!



Make every opportunity a language learning activity whether it's walking to nursery or bath time. Point to things, name them, sing a nursery rhyme, comment and ask simple questions.



Learn new words to describe the weather, choose one and draw a winter scene to match.



Discovery box – Fill a shoe box with a variety of materials e.g. Doll, biscuit, sock, glitter. Open up the lid and invite your child to tell a story with the contents—you can be as creative and as silly as you like!



Make a shooting star! Develop vocabulary and use lots of describing words whilst your child is decorating their star.