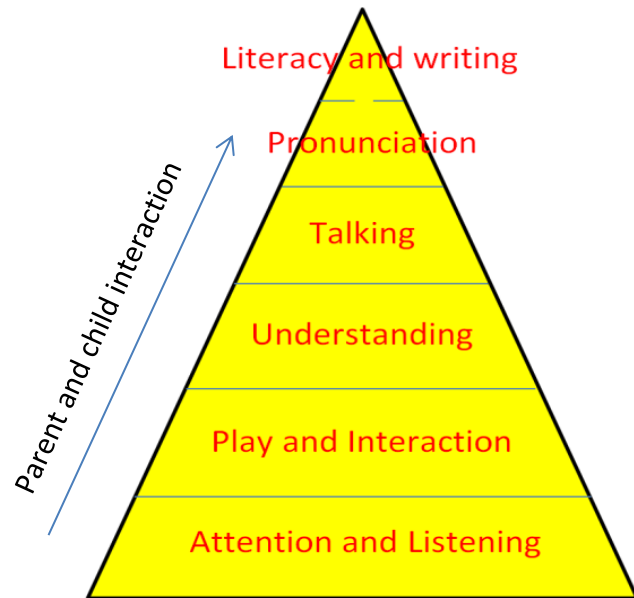


Communication Development Pyramid



**What can I do at
home?
Balloons!**

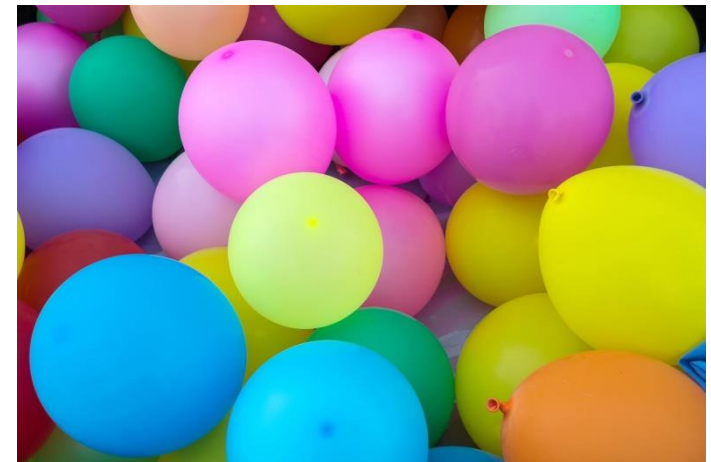
Concerned about your child's communication?

Contact Sam (Specialist Speech and Language Therapist at Chatty Chipmunks) to arrange a FREE no obligation 15 minute wellbeing chat to discuss your concerns and how we can help.

Phone: 07425 914487

Email: sam@chattychipmunks.co.uk

Web: www.chattychipmunks.co.uk



Supporting your child at home

Playing with balloons is a simple and fun way of supporting your child's speech, language and attention skills at home.

Top tips

- Keep it simple! Use key words and allow your child to focus their attention on those.
- Use Makaton or gestures if you can.
- Make up a song about what you're doing – something simple with lots of repetition is best!
- For older children or those with more advanced language skills, feel free to add more difficult concepts and more words to your sentences.
- Use exaggerated facial expressions and intonation to grab your child's attention!
- Above all, HAVE FUN!

Activity ideas

On the next page I've listed a few activity ideas to get you started. Feel free to use your own ideas too!

BLOW IT UP AND LET IT GO

Blow the balloon bigger and bigger in front of your child. Then....POP! Let the air out in your hands or watch the balloon fly around the room!

SUGGESTED KEY WORDS: "blow", "bigger", "pop", "balloon flying"

BALLOON SURPRISE

Insert surprises inside each balloon – such as sequins, paint, glitter and water – anything you like! Blow up the balloons and tie a knot in the end. Burst each balloon in turn and see what comes out!

SUGGESTED KEY WORDS: "balloon pop!", "red paint!", "soft pom poms", "sparkly glitter"

BALLOON FACES

Blow up balloons and draw faces on each one with your child, representing different emotions. Talk about the facial features each of you has chosen and copy the expressions with your child in the mirror. The more exaggerated the better!

SUGGESTED KEY WORDS: "blue eyes", "curly hair", "happy", "sad", "feelings"