Useful websites:

Speech and Language UK have a resources library for parents, exploring different strategies and principles for you to try at home.

https://speechandlanguage.org.uk/help-for-families/resource-library-for-families/

Other resources you could consider:

Twinkl Symbols for AAC - Communication Pictures, Software & Resources
Twinkl have developed a free to use programme of symbols to support communication at home for children who struggle to communicate using spoken language.

TTS have a range of affordable record-able device that have the option to add your own pictures and symbols into. These can be used as choice board, task boards or personal timelines.

CADMUS INCLUSIVE

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PRINCIPLES OF GOOD COMMUNICATION

A guide for parents

What are the principles of good communication?

A set of basic ideas that are fundamental in supporting good communication. They are often the concepts that are missed when supporting a child with communication differences as frequently adults focus upon the intervention itself rather than their own approach to supporting a child.
Speech and Language UK report that the key principles in supporting good communication are:

- Use of visual supports.
- The physical environment.
- Adult strategies.
- Opportunities to practice.

A Little More Information

Visual Supports
Visuals can act as a gentle prompt for children with relatively minor speech and language differences and also provide a method of communication for children who struggle to express themselves verbally. Visual supports can range from having an object as a reference for spoken language through to photographs, clipart and symbols. Examples of different types of visual supports that could be used to support children's communication skills are; timelines, now/next boards, aided language displays and pictorial vocabulary displays.

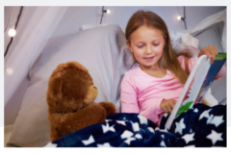
The Physical Environment
Often over looked, but the environment in which you work with your child on their speech and language skills can have a direct impact on it's effectiveness. Where possible work in an environment that is calm and quiet. Consider your child's sensory preferences in terms of lighting, smells, noise. Reduce distractions within the environment by reducing toys and turning off the TV and radio.

Adult Strategies
These can vary in effectiveness from child to child, but good principles include making time for communication, getting down on your child's level, adding supportive gestures, simplifying your language and providing additional time for your child to comprehend and respond to what has been said.

Opportunities to practice
As with all new skills, regular practice is essential in ensuring that they are remembered and can be used in the future. Opportunities to apply new skills in different environments and contexts is also important to help children apply them to situations outside of the room that they do their speech work in.

Ways to support at home

Creating spaces that are cosy, inviting and free from distraction.



Adding prompts, gestures and time to process what has been said.



Supportive visuals around the house to support communication and understanding

