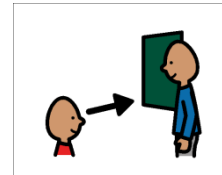
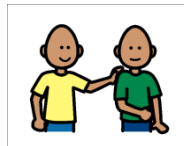
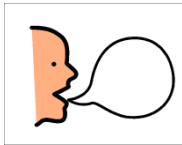


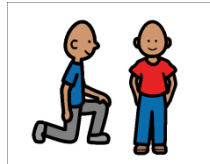
Supporting attention and listening

Here are some things you can do to make attending and listening easier for your child in everyday situations:

- Get their attention first e.g. say their name, touch them on the arm, make sure you are visible to them.



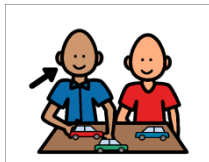
- Get down to their level.



- Reduce background noise/other distractions e.g. radio, TV, iPad.

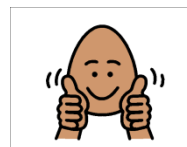


- Follow their interests.



- Use visuals to support attention.

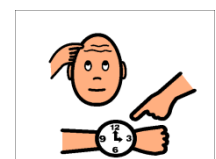
- Praise your child specifically for what they are doing well e.g. good looking, good listening.



- Don't ask them too many questions.



- Give time to process what is happening/what is said.



Here are some ideas for activities to try at home

Flour Shake (5 mins)

Resources – flour, or coloured powder, or glitter, sieve, plastic containers, large black paper, shapes.

Process – Carefully shake the flour onto the paper until it covers a large surface. Draw a pattern, simple picture e.g. smiley face or write a name. Shake the flour back into container and start again. Repeat several times. .

Use Key vocab: e.g. “shake shake” to comment (when shaking flour from the sieve)

Variations: Flour and shapes, use straw to blow patterns, hand prints, flour with glitter



Rice Tumble (6 mins)

Resources – Rice, or beads or lentils, plastic tray, plastic tube, clear cups, instruments e.g. cymbal, drum etc. foil.

Process – Fill cups with rice and pour into tube. When tube is full; pour the rice from end of the tube into the tray. Remember to release slowly for best sound effects.

Use Key vocab: “more”, “fill it up” to comment

Variations: Use a drum to pour rice/lentils on, use foil or other material to pour on, use xylophone to pour rice/lentils/tapioca on

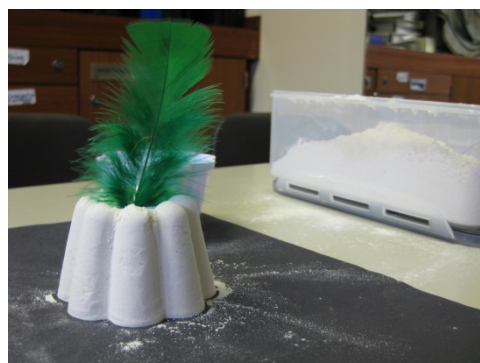
Flour Castles (7 mins)

Resources – Sand or flour, plastic tray, different containers, small spade or large spoon.

Process – Fill a container with the sand/flour. Tip out and make shape. Make two or three shapes. With flat hand squash the sand castles. Repeat.

Use Key vocab: “more”, “fill it up”, “splat!” to comment

Variations: Use variety of containers, instead of flattening the sandcastles with hand, poke them or blow on them, use different coloured sand, make one big sandcastle or some kind of sculpture with the sand!



Build a Snowman – (6 mins)

Resources: shaving foam, black A2 paper, stones, carrot stick, twigs, piece of material (for a scarf)

Process: Place the A2 paper down. Squirt foam onto the paper and make a snowman, gradually add the features.

Key vocab: 'squirt', 'squeeze', 'more', etc.

Variations: Do a sheep, or an ice cream, or a snow scene



Brush your teeth– (6 mins)

Resources: Black A3 paper, toothpaste, toothbrush.

Process: place out the A3 paper and draw a face using toothpaste – make sure you draw teeth so you can say 'brush your teeth' and use the toothbrush to actually brush the mouth on the paper

Key vocab: eyes, nose, mouth, teeth, hair, ears

Variations: also 'comb hair' – using a comb (still using toothpaste), use a squeeze bottle of choc sauce (or other flavour) on shower curtain– do teeth with toothpaste

Hand Prints – (6mins)

Resources: A3/A2 white paper, several colours of paint, disposable gloves (for ease), paint tray/spare paper

Process: Put gloves on and squirt some paint out on the tray/ spare paper. Make hand prints on the white paper (using a couple of colours for interest) to design a simple picture e.g. a sun, a tree.

Key vocab: yellow, green, etc

Variations: Use finger prints, or footprints, add glitter to the paint or sprinkle glitter on after you complete the picture



Also there are lots of other fun activity ideas online, (e.g. Pinterest: <https://www.pinterest.com/>)