



**Talking  
Together**

## **Ages & Stages**

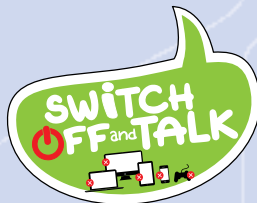
**I'm coming up to  
4 years old...**



**What's my talking like now?**

# At 4 years, your child is likely to...

- use lots and lots of words – about 1000 by age 4!!!
- seek out friends to play with.
- understand words that describe things, like ‘hot’ and ‘cold’, ‘long’ and ‘short’.
- use linking words in my sentences  
- e.g. ‘and’, ‘then’.
- understand language that relates to time  
e.g. ‘yesterday’, ‘tomorrow’.
- use basic grammar correctly but still make mistakes e.g. “Mummy, I goed to the park”.
- need less and less adult help to shift attention from a game to someone speaking and back again.
- use lots of speech sounds correctly but still find ‘th’, ‘r’, ‘ch’, ‘j’ and ‘l’ hard.



**Switch off and talk with me**

# Helpful Hints

Sing songs and rhymes with me. Draw attention to which words sound the same at the end (rhyming words).

Games like 'Simon Says' or musical statues help my listening skills.

Talk to me about what we have done and are going to do. E.g. "Remember when you splashed in that big puddle! We could go to the park again tomorrow."



Start clapping the beats (syllables) out in familiar people's names, e.g. "Let's clap Ben-ja-min, that's got 3 claps".

Give me an explanation using 'because'. E.g. "Those grapes are soft because they're not fresh".

Play board games with me – it really helps me to learn how to take turns.

I really enjoy sharing books with you – especially ones with rhymes. When you have told me a story, ask me if I can tell it back to you.

Visit our Language for Life pages for more information about how to support your child's speech, language and communication development.

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