

Modelling speech sounds

Children learn speech and language from what they hear around them. It is important that when a child makes a mistake that you respond to them with the correct sounds so they hear how it should sound.

There is no need to ask your child to repeat what you are saying, hearing how it should sound will often be enough.

Top tips:

- Repeat words clearly back to the child e.g. child says “look, a tat”, adult says “Yes, it’s a cat”
- Emphasise the sounds your child finds difficult when you are talking e.g. “it’s a cat”
- Try to do this without criticising your child or drawing attention to their errors
- Try not to interrupt the flow of the conversation – aim to keep it natural and respond to what they have said.

