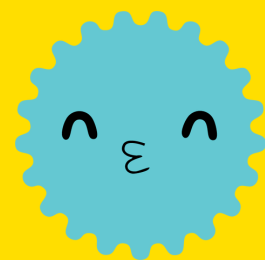




**Barking &
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Family
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Speech and Language Strategy of the Month: **January**



Imitate or Repeat After the Child

Why? Copying the child's words or actions encourages communication by reinforcing their efforts, showing them that you are interested, and it teaches them that their communication is valued. It also supports early turn-taking skills.

How? Say what they say, and do what they do. If your child says "car!" repeat "car!" back to them. If they babble "babadi," repeat "babadi." This imitation shows your child that their words and sounds are being heard and encourages them to keep communicating.

When? Whenever the child says or does something.

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