

Modeling Language

Language Goals

- Increase the rate at which your child communicates.
- Increase the diversity of communication.
- Increase the child's independence.
 - Increase spontaneous communication.
 - Decrease the dependence on adult cues.

Why Do We Model Language?

- Children learn language through modeling.
- Contingent modeling that is in response to your child's communication is the most powerful form of modeling.
- Simplifying language to match your child's language targets helps him/her learn language more quickly.
- Modeling makes it easier for your child to imitate and understand language.

How to Model Language?

- We pick targets based on the language your child is already using and what he/she should learn next.
- How does your child communicate now?
 - Gestures, vocalizations
 - Single words
 - 2 words
 - 3 words
 - 4 words

Using Your Child's Targets

- 50% of what you say should be one of your child's targets:
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____
 5. _____
- 50% should be slightly higher than your child's targets.
 - 1-2 words above his/her level
 - All words should be teaching words (nouns, verbs, modifiers)

When to Model Language?

- After your child communicates (expanding)
 - Respond with a language target
- When you are doing the same action or have the same object as your child.
 - Child: {drives car}
 - Adult: {drives car} car