



Building Attention

At first, to gain attention, use resources that motivate the child.
Favourite pictures of TV characters can be useful!

1. Hold a very light scarf over your head say ready, steady...go and blow very hard making it blow up exposing your face.

2. Sit the child on your lap facing outwards rock gently rocking saying "1, 2, 3...crash" and fall backwards. Then sit back up doing all again eventually you can incorporate "1, 2, 3...up" when you are on the floor.



3. Play round and round the garden slowly say "1 step, 2 step... then pause waiting for any response then quickly and excitably say "tickley under there"
4. If the child enjoys being tickled, tickle then stop and wait for a response either say "more" anticipating a reaction then tickle or say "ready, steady...tickle"



5. Creep your fingers up the child's arm, legs or body saying counting each step, after 3 tap a body part e.g. nose, ear or chin saying the name or a quirky sound like "bop". To make it more interesting and when child has grasped the concept say where you are going to touch prior to creeping up.

6. Have child sit in spinning cone hold hands/cone say ready steady...spin/rock.
7. Sit child on see saw sit on opposite side or hold on to opposite side. "1, 2, 3...up" "1, 2, 3...down" or "ready, steady...slow" "ready, steady...fast"

8. Sit child on a large ball in front of you holding hands or at hips (more stability and control) say "annddd.....bounce" or "ready, steady.....bounce." and bounce child up and down and then say "and stop." and start again encouraging the child to indicate more either by signing, anticipating or attempting to say bounce.



9. Place a large drum in front of both you and the child bang the drum together then shout "stop" initially you will need to move the drum out of reach then say "ready, steady...Bang" and begin to bang. Eventually you will not need to move the drum.



10. Skittles - take it in turns to knock down skittles bought or made out of bottles.

11. Have one threading lace and two pots of beads - take it in turns to thread the beads

12. Jack in the box, ready steady...go and press button to make jack jump and say loudly "BOO".

13. A cardboard tube, push a brightly coloured scarf into it with a corner sticking out one end, hold tube when child is attending to the scarf say "ready, steady...wosh" and pull scarf out.

14. A wrapping paper tube pom, poms, small balls or cars hold the ball at top say ready steady go and roll down tube.

15. Hold a small blanket between yourself and child put a ball/ bean bag or soft toy on top and say ready steady go on go quickly lift the blanket and make the toy fly into the air.

16. Have a bright hand/ finger puppet dance it around a get the child's attention then hide it behind your back/ in your palm say "where's....?" when the child looks quickly jump the puppet up and say "Here I am"/ "Boo"/ "Hello"

17. Looking in a mirror putting on a hat and pulling funny faces.

18. Sit the child on a large exercise ball have them facing you and hold their hands or hips bounce the child up and down, consider counting to a



consistent number and then shout stop. Then say "Ready, steady...go/ bounce"

19. Have a basket of bricks (start with three, gradually increasing as the child more competent) take turns in building up a tower of bricks using all the bricks. When all

the bricks are used say ready, steady...go and take turns in knocking the tower down.

20. Have on pot/ wand of bubbles children take turns in blowing bubbles.

21. Wind up toy children take turns to wind up and let go.

22. Set up a ramp for cars to go down (or car helter-skelter), start with a car for each children take it in turns to put their car down. As children become more able in their turn taking reduce to using one car children take it in turns to use this car.



23. Pull back car, children take it in turns to pull back and release.

24. Hand held wind mill, children take it in turns to hold and blow. To enable two children to work together have one hold and another blow (to make it really exciting blow it using a hand held battery fan)

25. Have a large bucket/ shiny bowl/ hoop and a collection of small balls/ bean bags in a basket. Children take it in turns to throw the balls into the bowl. When children become competent at this extend to throwing a decided number of balls in turn or all the balls in the basket