

Expand-Recast

How does it help?

Expanding and recasting involves adding new words to what your child says. By adding new words to what your child is already saying you are demonstrating more complex communication skills for him to learn. You are also showing your child that what he says is important and that he can say more as his communication skills increase.

What do we want your child to do?

- Use specific words or gestures to request, protest, and to share information
- Build expressive language skills to include 2-3 word phrases

What do I do?

- When your child says a word or phrase, expand on it by adding more information to what he said (e.g., If your child says, “Truck”, you can say, “I see a **big, blue** truck”)
- Encourage your child if he attempts to copy what you say by giving hugs, smiles, and praise
- Do not pressure your child to repeat what you said. Move along with him to other toys or objects that he is interested in

When to expand your child’s language?

- Whenever you hear your child use a word or gesture during play or daily routines