

Wait Time

Give your child time to process what they hear before providing more auditory input.

How does it work?



After giving a direction or asking a question, pause and wait for your child to respond.

Why do we do it?



Gives your child a chance to provide their own response.



Strengthens your child's receptive and expressive language skills.



Builds your child's confidence to be an active participant in conversations.

Tips for success



It can be tempting to jump in and help your child respond to questions or directions, but wait time gives your child the chance to process and shows that you expect them to respond.



Counting to 10 silently can help you wait for a response.



Use nonverbal cues, like leaning in and looking at your child with interest, to encourage a response.



Practice this strategy with other adults.