

English Activities to support your children:

You may support this development by using words in a context 'Let's read the next sentence now,' or 'I'm going to think about what to say in my sentence,' or 'Have I finished my sentence yet?'

Human sentences

Write each word of a sentence, and the full stop, on separate cards. Give each card to your child, and ask them to sequence the words to make a sentence!

Finish my sentence

Give the children an oral sentence starter, such as 'My favourite food is... or 'When it rains ...' or 'In the middle of the wood I saw...'

Ask for several suggestions to add to each starter in order to make a sentence!

Noisy sentences

Read a text together. Ask the children to clap, knock on the floor or click their fingers every time they come to a full stop. Different sounds can be used for question marks and exclamation marks!

Rainbow sentences:

- Choose a passage from a familiar story. Ask your child to read it aloud so you can scribe it, using a different colour for each sentence - rainbow sentences. Point out how the colour shows the sentence boundaries.
- Give your child two coloured pens and a dry-wipe board. Help them to construct a sentence which they write in one colour followed by another sentence in the other colour and so on!

Synonym game

To support your child at home you could try playing some games such as the Synonym Game. Start off with a simple word such as 'happy'.

Take in turns to say a word which has the same meaning. You could then ask them what the antonym (opposite) for that word is.

Extend the sentence

Give your child a simple sentence and ask them to extend it using subordinate clauses. Where would the commas be? E.g. John froze. - As darkness fell upon him, John froze.