

Communication and Language Branch Map

Attention and Language and understanding communication

Please tick all that apply. Branch 1 is the beginning of the communication journey, however if the child is working along a higher branch, you do not need to start from the very beginning. If there are skills further down the branches that they have not completed or are inconsistent with please indicate this. Please note that each branch continues onto the next page.

Branch 1	Branch 2	Branch 3	Branch 4	Branch 5	Branch 6	Branch 7	Branch 8	Branch 9	Branch 10
☐ Notices Stimuli	☐ Anticipates within	☐Start to understand	☐Understands single words/sounds	□Understand 1 key	□Understands 'who'	□Understands 'where'	☐Shows understanding of	□Listen and respond	☐ Indicate or sign the
	familiar social routines	contextual clues	signs/symbols in context	word sentences	and 'what' in simple questions	in simple questions	prepositions such as 'under' 'on top',	to ideas expressed by others in conversations or	correct picture or object when the adult says or signs the first
							'behind'	discussions	sound
TasteSmellTouchVisualAuditoryVestibular	During social games During social songs Everyday routines	 Within social routine Using objects or props Transition songs and symbols 	 Using objects or props Within social routine In play situations Follow simple familiar instructions 	 Within social routine In play situations In structured situations In unfamiliar environments 	In play situations In structured situations (colourful semantics)		In play situations In structured situations	In structured situationsIn play situationsWith familiar and unfamiliar people	
☐ Responds to close	☐ Objects to	☐ Shows	☐ Copies sounds and	☐ Uses singles	☐ Combine two	☐ Uses language to	☐ Responds to	☐ Understands	☐ Indicate or sign the
physical contact with a familiar person	termination of an interaction	understanding that their action causes a specific effect	gestures	words/signs/ symbols for a range of purposes	words/signs/ symbols	share experiences, feelings and thoughts	instructions involving a two part sequence in a range of familiar contexts	instructions containing sequencing words such as 'first', 'after' and 'last'	correct letter when the adult says or signs the sound
		 Switch toys Computer input devices Cause and effect items 		 Within social routine In play situations In structured situations In unfamiliar environments To request items that are not present 	 Within social routine In play situations In structured situations In unfamiliar environments 	With familiar adults With less familiar adult With peers		- Follow a recipe - Follow a simple route plan (first go to pink class, then)	
☐ Responds consistently to one stimulus	☐ Responds to cause and effect	☐ In the context of a familiar social game, perseveres by repeating action in order to get reward	☐ Deliberately attract attention of another person in order to communicate need	☐ Copies words or signs	☐ Begins to talk about people and things that are not present	☐ Uses a variety of simple questions, e.g. 'what', 'where', 'who'	☐ Focusing attention — still listen or do but can shift own attention	☐ Can answer simple questions about a story without props or pictures, to show understanding	☐ To recognise and communicate every letter of the alphabet
	Switch toys Computer input devices Cause and effect items			In play situations In structured situations	People or things in the very recent past (same day) Things that will happen later that day			Familiar story Unfamiliar story	
☐ Responds to	☐ Changes behaviour	☐ Attracts Attention	☐ Initiates Social	☐ Copies rhythms or	☐ Engages in	☐ Uses simple	☐ Understand 2 key	☐ Demonstrate an	☐ Has a good
familiar voice or other personal identifier	in response to an interesting event nearby		Game	beats vocally or with an instrument (early phonics)	simple conversation with adults/other children	sentences	word sentences	understanding of 'how' and questions	understanding of phase 3 phonics blends
Familiar Voice Familiar personal object or touch cue			In social interactions With objects/prop		Within social routine In play situations	To make a request To comments To ask a question	Within social routine In play situations	- Able to communicate ideas in response	Saying Reading Writing

				In structured situations		In structured situations In unfamiliar environments	to a 'how will you do this?' question	
☐ Responds to some stimuli in a way that can be interpreted as rejection	☐ Looks backwards and forwards between two objects (knows two objects are present)	☐ Selects from two or more items	☐ Develop consistent sounds to communicate with those around them	☐ Learns new words/symbols quickly and is able to use them when communicating	☐ Can describe a picture using nouns and verbs	☐ Can retell a simple past event in the correct order using visual support	☐ Has a good understanding of phase 2 initial phonic sounds	☐ Uses future tense
In social interactionsWith objects/ propsWith familiar personal care activities		During snack or meal times During play situations				Using objects or props Using symbols	- Saying - Reading - Writing	- Next
☐ Supported 1:1 turn taking with an adult	☐ Changes behaviour in response to familiar sounds or words	☐ Communicates choice to attentive adult	☐ Joint attention			☐ Talks to explain what is happening and predict what might happen next	☐ To give explanations in response to why questions	
 Intensive interaction Using objects or props 			 Join the adult in attending to a stimulus Confirm the attention of the adult visually throughout 					
	☐ Terminates interaction with an adult	☐ Initiates strategies to achieve desired results in a variety of contexts (exercises autonomy)				☐ Uses past and present tense.	☐ Uses language to imagine and recreate roles and experiences with a narrative in play situations	
		Gains adult attention to make a request During cause and effect play						
	☐ Responds in ways that can be interpreted as meaning "more"	☐ Begins to experiment with a range of vocal sounds				☐ Talks in more complex sentences, using linking words 'and' 'because' In play situations In structured	☐ Can use language to organise and sequence ideas	
	☐ Communicates needs/feelings through crying/babbling/ squealing	☐ Takes turns with an adult during vocal interactions				situations Can describe a picture using adjectives	☐ Initiates conversation, pays attention and takes account of what others say	
	☐ Communicates 'more' and 'no more' through two different consistent actions							