

Imitation

Why is it important?

Imitation encourages your child to engage with you. It can help increase spontaneous language, vocalizations, engagement, and attention. It can also increase play skills.

Setting Up for Imitation

- If imitating with toys, let your child choose the activity.
- Stay face to face with your child.

Imitate During Play

- Use sets of the same toys.
- Imitate how your child is playing with their toy. (ex: Rolling car back and forth)
- Imitate any vocalizations they make during the activity.
- Only imitate appropriate behavior.
- If your child is not engaged with a toy, imitate their gestures and body movements. (ex: stomping, running, clapping, jumping)

Imitate During Routines

- Imitate vocalizations during meal times and bath time.
- Imitate gestures and body movements.

