

If you have any questions, queries, or require more information, please contact the Welsh Centre for Cleft, Lip & Palate:

Telephone: (01792) 703854

Monday to Friday (excluding Bank Holidays)

8.30 am to 4.30 pm

An out-of-hours answering machine is available

Email: [SBU.CleftEnquiries@wales.nhs.uk](mailto:SBU.CleftEnquiries@wales.nhs.uk)



Editorial Board: 1054  
First Published: April 2015  
Version: 2  
Review Date: December 2020  
Next Review Date: December 2022  
Author: Cleft Speech and Language Therapists,  
The Welsh Centre for Cleft Lip and Palate



GIG  
CYMRU  
NHS  
WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol  
Bae Abertawe  
Swansea Bay University  
Health Board

## Babble Stage Two



Y Ganolfan Cymraeg i  
**Wefus a Thafnod Holt**  
The Welsh Centre for  
**Cleft Lip & Palate**

Speech and Language Therapy

Morrison Hospital, Swansea, SA6 6NL

Telephone: (01792) 703854

<https://sbuhb.nhs.wales/hospitals/a-z-hospital-services/cleft-team/>

## Create a good communication setting

When embarking on speech work with your child, it is important to start by creating a good communication environment.

- Remove all distractions e.g. turn off the television, choose a quiet time of the day maybe when siblings are at school and so on.
- Be on the same level as your child, e.g. sit on the floor opposite your child so they can watch your face, lips, tongue and teeth as you talk.
- Encourage good eye contact - hold a toy close to your face to encourage your child to look at you.
- Give praise and encouragement to any attempts of



## Problems

If your child does not copy – keep going.

Do not put pressure on your child to copy the word. A child needs to hear a sound hundreds of times to learn how to say it.

## A Note On Word And Sentence Development

■ At 2 years of age the typical sentences of children contain 1 – 2 words e.g. 'bye daddy', 'more banana', 'teddy gone'.

Children understand one or two key words in a sentence, therefore break sentences down into smaller chunks of information.

For further information please see our language development leaflet.



## Babble Stage two is very similar to Babble Stage one

- Babble stage two also involves the repetition of front, quiet sounds 'p', 't', 'f', 's', 'sh', 'th'.
- **Use Quiet sounds** so that your child hears the sound properly and locates its position in the mouth more easily.
- **Front sounds**—these sounds are visual and furthest away from the throat to discourage throaty sounds.
- Do not put pressure on the child to copy sounds.
- Hold a toy close to your mouth to encourage your child to look at your lips, teeth and tongue as they produce front mouth sounds.

## How does Babble Therapy Stage two differ from Babble Therapy Stage one?

Babble Stage 2 encourages front quiet sounds through words and small phrases rather than the repetition of single sounds.

Remember, the front mouth sounds 'p', 't', 'f', 's', 'sh', 'th' can be at the beginning of a word or at the end of a word.

For example; target sound 'p'.

'Pig'  
'Tap'

Remember to keep phrases short.

For example; 'pink pig'.

## To Avoid

- Uh—oh
- Growling
- Where possible ignore these sounds or demonstrate a front mouth sound
- For example -  
    Child says 'uh—oh'  
    Parent says 'oops'

## Encouraging Talking

Use the same words frequently through out the day.

Give your child a chance to talk. Pause so they have a chance at talking.

Give choices to encourage attempts at words -

For example; 'Play with plane or train?'

If your child says a word incorrectly, repeat it back to them correctly -

For example; Child says 'gog'

Parent says 'Yes its a dog'

Remember to praise all attempts at talking.



## Activities

Activities to encourage speech development need to be carried out daily. The easiest way to do this is to find activities in the daily routine.

For example

- At bath time—Use words such as 'splash', 'wash', 'wipe', 'bubble', 'boat', 'soap'.
- Meal times—Use words such as 'eat', 'food', 'hot', 'cup'.
- Play time—use words such as 'fast', 'slow', 'up', 'down,' 'baby', 'farm'.
- When out in the car/for a walk—use short phrases such as 'I see ...' or 'I found ...'
- In the park—use words such as 'push', 'swing', 'woosh'.
- When food shopping—use words such as 'juice', 'apple', 'pear', 'cheese'.
- When reading a book find your child's favourite characters that have front mouth sounds such as Peppa Pig, Topsy and Tim, Thomas the tank, Postman Pat.

