**Communication and Language**

* Communication and Language is fundamental to a child’s academic success, children's level of vocabulary at five predicts the level of success at key stage 1 and key stage 2. (Fisher 2016)
* Therefore, this explains why Communication and Language is a prime area.

Communication and Language needs to come before any formal introduction to literacy (specific area).

* Once you are confident to communicate and use language, you can learn to become confident with the written word.
* At *school* children use written language to; think, explain, suggest, reason and discuss.

Passive and Active Language is used to access written language (read and write with meaning)

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| How can we help children to increase their vocabulary?* Using this information can you up level your conversation further with the children, this may be as simple as describing in more detail or working on your sustained shared thinking skills (have seen babies part 1?)
* Invite the children to think about……. I wonder………. what do you think?…
* Use our conversation starter ideas below
* For babies describe what the babies see/ feel/ what is happening
* For toddlers extend their sentences with a longer reply
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* Tell me about….
* Why do you think…?
* How did you….?
* What happened when…?
* What would happen if we…?
* How do you think we could…?
* How might you use..?
* I wonder if…?
* What else can you do with…?
* Adult to think; Do I need to question now..? Will it help or hinder the child.