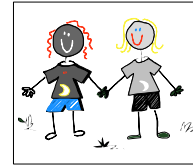


Information and advice from:



**Early Development and
Inclusion Team**
Supporting Inclusion at the
Early Years Foundation Stage



Knock, knock box

Putting activities in box or a bag is a great way to attract your child's interest. This activity can be used to develop attention and listening skills, introduce vocabulary and for your child to begin to follow directions.

- All you need is a box with a lid – a shoebox is ideal, you can always cover it with wrapping paper– and 3-4 items to put in it. It can be anything that your child is interested in, or a selection of objects to explore. Try a teddy, a cup, a brush and a spoon; or instruments you can shake, tap or bang.
- Tap on the lid and say 'Knock, knock what's in the box?' Open the lid and encourage your child to look inside and choose 1 item. Then close the lid.
- Let them explore/play with the item and talk with them about what they've found and what they do with it. E.g. 'Shake, shake the shaker', 'It's Teddy. Cuddle Teddy'.
- When your child has had enough of that object, suggest you do some 'more'. Repeat 'Knock, knock, what's in the box?' And choose another item to explore and talk about.

Top tips:

- Try not to ask too many questions! Instead talk about what they've chosen and what they do with it. For example, 'Oh, you've found the teddy'. 'Here's teddy's nose'.
- Remember to include some action words e.g. 'Brushing teddy's ears'. 'Teddy is eating', 'Let's give Teddy a drink' etc.
- It's important to repeat words over and over so your child learns the names of the objects and actions they are using.
- Use actions, gestures or signs to support your spoken words to help your child's understanding.

Have fun!