

Repetition

"As children navigate their way through the world, they're learning about cause and effect all the time" says Dr Michelle Peter, a children's language researcher and social scientist. "It's the concept that they need to understand that their actions and behaviours have an effect on the people around them and the objects around them."

This can be demonstrated clearly through activities like playing with building blocks: when a child stacks too many blocks, the tower falls over. When they do this over and over and see this happen repeatedly, they learn that, as a rule, big towers are likely to fall. Child psychologist Dr Linda Blair says that repetition helps them cement the idea that certain actions lead to certain events happening. "If you can imagine being a child, absolutely everything is new and unconnected to everything else."

Communication challenge:

Each newsletter we will be adding a communication challenge for you to complete at home. We understand that time is precious and with busy lives it may be hard to complete tasks so hopefully they are small challenges that you can incorporate into your daily routines. If you are able to send in pictures, photos or comments when completing the challenges, we would enjoy sharing these with the group.

The forth challenge is to:

Remembering and changing words

How to play:

Read a familiar story to your child, could be a book from home or their preschool sharing book.

Once you feel your child is familiar with the books, its illustrations and the sounds that come with the book; start to miss words out.

To simplify the activity sing nursery rhymes and each rime miss out a word and wait for your child to fill in the gap.

To further the activity, you could encourage the children to think of a different word to use in its place.