COMMENTARY

DESCRIBE WHAT THE CHILD IS DOING NOW
USE SIMPLE REPETITIVE PHRASES
PAUSE BETWEEN EACH PHRASE

Eg “You’re blowing … blowing the bubbles”

USEFUL FOR:
• Quiet children
• Children with less than 2 – 3 word phrases
• Children who are reluctant to interact
• Bilingual children

WHEN TO USE:
• During play (easier during physical or imaginative where there is more to describe)
• 1:1
• 5 – 10 minute slots regularly

HOW TO DO:
• Talk about what the child is doing but allow time for him/her to respond/imitate before you say the next comment
• Don’t ask questions or expect a response
• Don’t be afraid to be repetitive
• Use lively intonation – have fun

WHY USE IT:
• Focuses on the ‘here and now’, follows child’s interest and language level is simple
• Reduces pressure to talk – child more likely to join in
• Model grammatical structure – child imitates longer phrases
• Encourages vocabulary development – child can copy repeated words