

# EXPANDING

REPEAT WHAT THE CHILD SAID BUT ADD  
1 – 2 WORDS OF YOUR OWN

Eg Child: I went shopping  
Adult: You went shopping yesterday  
You and mummy went shopping  
You went shopping at Tesco's

- USEFUL FOR:
- Children who are using shorter phrases than peers
  - Quite/reluctant children
  - Bilingual children
- WHEN TO USE:
- No particular activity, whenever a child speaks to you
- HOW TO DO:
- Don't make it sound like you are correcting them – start with 'yes' or 'oh'
  - Stress the words you are adding
  - Add different types of words, eg verbs, nouns, adjectives
  - For children using 4 or more word phrases you can add a whole phrase, eg 'Oh, you went shopping and you bought some bananas'
- WHY USE IT:
- Encourages vocabulary and grammatical development
  - Expanding gives the child a model of language structures which are one step further on in the development of their expressive language