



**SCOTTISH
COCHLEAR IMPLANT
PROGRAMME**

Moving on from single words

Tips to support language development



Moving from 1 to 2 word understanding

When your child is learning to understand more than one piece of information in a sentence, we start by building on what they already know.

What does two-word understanding mean?

Before children say two-word phrases, they need to understand them. Two-word understanding is when your child can hear and make sense of short combinations of words such as:

- Get ball
- Big cup
- Socks on
- Mummy push

This shows your child is learning not just new words, but how words work together to create meaning.



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Easy Ways to Help Your Child at Home

Use short, simple two-word phrases in your everyday routines. This helps your child to hear the same words and phrases regularly.

Dressing - socks on, zip up

Meal time - more banana, big bite

Bath time - wash hands, duck in

Repeat these many times in the same situation and your child will start to make sense of them.





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Giving your child choices helps to tune them into listening

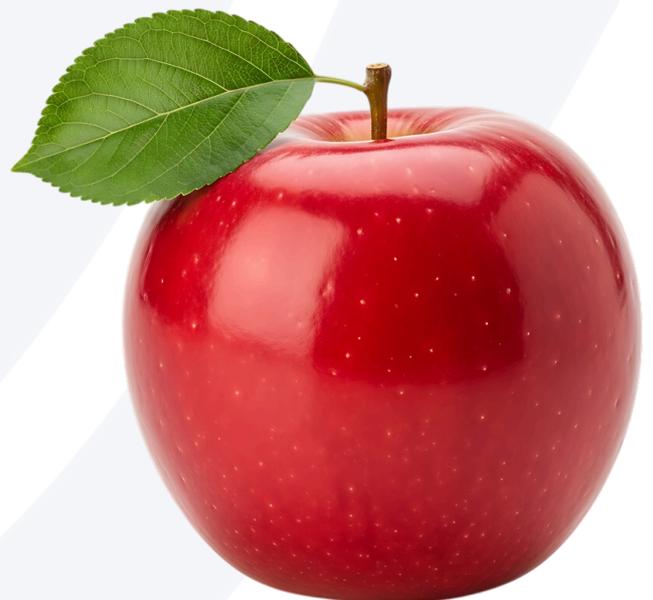
- Do you want the big ball or small ball?
- Put teddy in bed or in box?
- Red apple or green apple?

Use auditory sandwich approach

1. Say the two-word phrase
2. Pause
3. Then say it again but also show and/or sign
4. Say the phrase again

For example:

1. Say - Get the green apple
2. Pause and look expectantly at your child
3. Say again along with sign, if used
4. Say again - Get the green apple





Emphasise the important words, using a natural, clear voice.

- Babies and young children respond well to a sing-song voice

Try these:

- Get the BIG ball
- Put the car IN the box

Avoid over-exaggeration—natural speech works best

Auditory closure

Say part of a familiar phrase and pause:

- Put teddy in the ____ (bed)
- Brush your ____ (teeth).

This encourages your child to expect and understand two-word combinations.





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Sing Songs and leave a gap for your child to fill in:

“The wheels on the bus go (round and round)”

“Twinkle twinkle(little star)”

Play simple games that use two-word listening

- Put toys IN/ON/UNDER something
- Make animals DO actions: cow jump, dog eat
- Sorting: find the big one, find the red car
- Hide-and-seek: Hide teddy in the box, teddy on bed

Keep it playful and fun.





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How You Can Support Your Child

- Keep language short and meaningful
- Repeat phrases often
- Model the same two-word phrases in different situations
- Celebrate every small step
- Keep communication fun, natural, and stress-free