



# Education Endowment Fund Research On Collaborative Talk



The Education Endowment Fund (EEF) has identified **Collaborative Talk** as one of the most effective strategies to support Early Language and Communication in the Early Years.



### What Is Collaborative Talk?

Collaborative Talk is high-quality back-and-forth talk between adults and children. It helps children to:

- ✓ Develop Vocabulary
- ✓ Organise Their Thinking
- ✓ Build Understanding
- ✓ Develop Confidence In Communication

### What Does The EEF Say?

EEF Research Shows That Collaborative Talk Can Add Up To 7 Additional Months' Progress For Children, Particularly Those From Disadvantaged Backgrounds.

**+7 MONTHS' PROGRESS**

### Key Features Of Effective Collaborative Talk

<p><b>Back-And-Forth Conversations</b> Encourage turns and active listening.</p>	<p><b>Open-Ended Questions</b> Ask questions that encourage thinking and explanation.</p>	<p><b>Build On Children's Ideas</b> Expand, clarify and extend what children say.</p>	<p><b>A Supportive Environment</b> Create a language-rich, inclusive space where every child feels heard.</p>
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### Why It Matters

- Stronger Language Skills
- Better Thinking and Learning
- Improved Social Skills
- Helps Close The Attainment Gap

### How Practitioners Can Support Collaborative Talk

<p><b>Model Rich Language</b> Use new words and describe ideas clearly.</p>	<p><b>Plan For Talk</b> Build in time and purposeful opportunities for discussion.</p>	<p><b>Listen Actively</b> Show genuine interest and respond to children's ideas.</p>	<p><b>Use Visuals and Resources</b> Support talk with objects, images and stories.</p>	<p><b>Include Every Child</b> Value every voice and encourage participation.</p>
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