

Children's Speech and Language Therapy Service

Playing with Sounds: The 'd' sound

Activities you can try at home:

- Make a drum using an empty ice-cream tub. Play the drum with your child and say the 'd' sound for them to listen to.
- Play a listening game with your child. They should bang the drum when you say "drum". Say lots of 'd' words to your child e.g. "dog... daddy... donkey... drum!" When you say 'drum', encourage them to bang the drum. They will need to listen hard to know when to bang the drum.
- Play 'What's behind the door?' Make a pretend door by cutting into an old box, or use a door in your house. Collect together some toys and objects that begin with 'd'. Hide one behind the door, and ask, "What's behind the door?" Your child can guess. Then open the door and say what is there, "There's a duck behind the door!" Your child might like a turn at hiding items behind the door.
- Use a children's spade and find somewhere for your child to dig, like a sand pit or flower bed. Hide some things beginning with 'd' for them to find. Say the 'd' words to them as they play, e.g. "Your digging a daisy!" .
- Read books to your child that include lots of the 'd' sound and emphasise these words as you read.
- Remember the cued articulation sign for the 'd' sound- use this when you say the sound on it's own and in words.

Remember: Your child doesn't need to say the 'd' sound, the important thing is that they listen to you. If they choose to copy you- great, but don't ask them to.

Have fun!