

LET'S TALK

Dads

Dads play a vital role in developing thinking skills, language, communication and much more!

This is why we have dedicated a Let's Talk to all things 'Dad'.

TOP ACTIVITIES FOR DADS

- Getting outside for walks or games
- Creeping up and chasing games (e.g. What's the time Mr Wolf)
- Jumping games
e.g. off tree stumps, into pools, on trampolines
- Getting out board games to share with your child



A WORD ON DADS

Families come in all shapes and sizes and that's ok.

Helping kids communicate is everyone's business and we want to make sure Dads are supported too.

When we talk about Dad's, this can also mean any close family member or friend who are male that spends time with your child.



Singing

Did you know children who know 8 nursery rhymes at age 4 have better reading scores age 8? You don't have to be a great singer for your child to benefit either. Don't under estimate some silly voices and comic effect for added fun and stress relief. Check out [Daddy Freckle](#) on making up silly songs too.

Here are a few ideas

- [Row, row, row your boat](#)
- [Little Miss Muffet](#)
- [The wheels on the bus](#)
- [Head, shoulders, knees and toes](#)



Check out this video to learn the sign for 'Happy Father's Day'



Stories to Share

- Reading together is great for bonding and building a strong and loving relationship with your child;
- The routine of sharing stories and rhymes helps your child to communicate and will support their wellbeing; and
- Children who are read to from an early age do better when they get to school – learning rhymes and stories together will give them a flying start! Just 15 minutes a day makes a difference.

Don't forget to visit your local library to find books to share

[Swindon Library Service](#)

Check out [Storybook Dads](#) and how their work keeps Dads in the prison service reading to their kids.

'Dad Life'

BBC Tiny Happy People introduces Dad Life

TINY Happy PEOPLE

Your words build their world

Dad Life

Tips and advice to help you navigate parenthood and bond with your baby.

Click on the picture to be taken to 'Dad Life' where you will find lots of information and videos with ideas on how Dads can develop their child's communication

[Check out this link to learn signs for other family members](#)

Dad Chatter

WHY DO DADS MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

When it comes to how we talk to our kids, Mums and Dads are different.

- Dads tend to use a higher level of language with kids, so they use more tricky words and sentences, which means their children also use more of this.
- Dads tend to direct conversations.
- Dads tend to do more rough- and-tumble play as well as more complicated games, which help with bonding and stretching children's imaginations and play skills.
- Children tend to have more 'Communication breakdowns' with their Dad, this helps children learn how to ask someone when they don't understand.



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