

# Follow your child's lead

When you talk about what your child is interested in, they have an easier time learning language.

## Why follow your child's lead?

- By following your child's lead, it shows your child that you are interested in what they are doing

## How to follow your child's lead...

- **Watch** to see what your child is interested in
- **Wait** to give your child a chance to choose the toy or activity
- **Join** in and talk about what you and your child are doing

## When not to follow your child's lead...

- Your child is doing something you don't want him/her to do (e.g., throwing a toy, biting)
- Your child has a short attention span



Video: **Why Interaction Matters - Part 1**  
(YouTube, The Hanen Centre)



[www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ZAeVAtH3H0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ZAeVAtH3H0)

*If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your Lansdowne SLP or CDA for help.*

## How to connect with support:

Anyone with a concern about their child's development can contact SmartStart Hub at Lansdowne Children's Centre to start the referral process and seek support.

No diagnosis or doctor referral is required. There is NO COST to the family for accessing SmartStart Hub services, supports and resources.

**Visit** [www.lansdownecentre.ca/speech](http://www.lansdownecentre.ca/speech)

**Call** toll free 1-800-454-7186 ext. 507