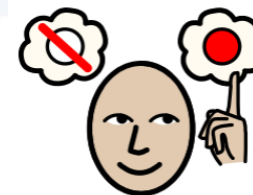


Making Choices



Why offer choices?

Offering children choices will help them learn to communicate their needs and have some control in their environment.

Step 1

- Start by offering your child a choice of a favourite item and an item you know they do not like. Show them the items and label them as you offer the choice.
- If they choose the item they do not like by mistake, offer this briefly to help them learn about making choices.

Step 2

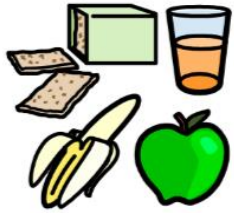
Once they understand how to make a choice - you can offer them two items you know they like.

Top tips for offering choices

- Use clear and simple language
- Label the choice using gesture, Makaton signs, photographs and/or words.
- Repeat the word/gesture when the child makes their choice.
- Children may make a choice by saying the word, using a vocalisation (sound), pointing, taking the object or pushing the object away.
- If your child uses a single word to make a choice – model adding a word to make the phrase longer 'want apple'



Examples



Snack time

Do you want 'milk' or 'juice'?



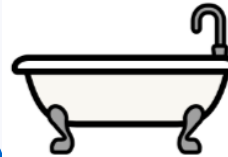
Getting dressed

Do you want 'socks' or
'trousers'?



Play time

Do you want 'cars' or 'lego'?



Bath time

Do you want 'cup' or 'boat'?



Story time

Do you want 'Spot' or 'The
Hungry Caterpillar'?