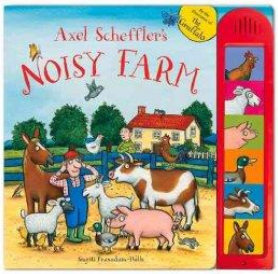
A Speech & Language Therapist's Christmas List

A Click Clack Track or a Marble Run

— These are great for early turn taking. Teach them to listen and have fun doing it by seeing whether they can wait for "Ready...steady...Go!"

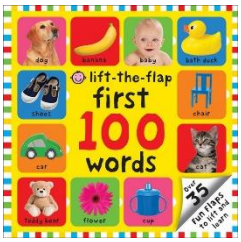


A book with sound effects

— Learning to make pretend noises such as animal sounds or transport noises is a great stepping stone to real words.

Role play toys

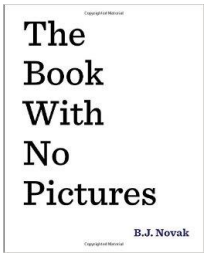
— We love toys that help children pretend! Farms, garages, doll's houses - watch what children are doing with them and give them a simple commentary. It really helps them to link the words with what they are seeing and doing.



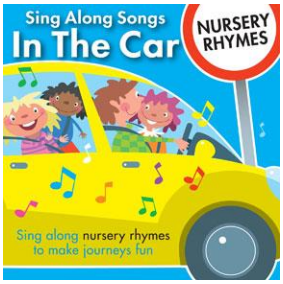
A First Words book

— You can't beat photos of real objects for babies and toddlers! They are much easier for them to make sense of than books with drawings. A first words book with real photos is a brilliant investment.

Books with word play



— For older pre-school children, look for books that will help them to LOVE language. Books with word play in them that just sound fun. The Book with No Pictures is great but so is Dr Seuss and Hairy Maclary from Donaldson's dairy and of course the Gruffalo!

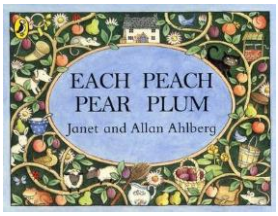


Nursery rhymes CD

— Research tells us that toddlers who rhyme become children who read so give them a head start with a CD of nursery rhymes for the car!

Pop Up Dragon game

— Children love games and easy ones like this are a great way for children to learn to take turns - and maybe even learn to cope with not being the winner!



Rhyming book

— Even the youngest children can enjoy sharing a rhyming book. It helps them to share attention, listen to sounds in words and learn to love books.

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