



Communication Milestones

Communication Y1 and Y2

Concept - Listen carefully and understand

Sift information and focus on the important points.

Seek clarification when a message is not clear.

Understand instructions with more than one point.

Concept - Develop a wide and interesting vocabulary

Use subject specific vocabulary to explain and describe.

Suggest words or phrases appropriate to the topic being discussed.

Identify homophones.

Concept - Speak with clarity

Speak in a way that is clear and easy to understand.

Demonstrate good phonic knowledge by clearly pronouncing the sounds within words.

Identify syllables within words.

Concept - Tell stories with structure

Ensure stories have a setting, plot and a sequence of events.

Recount experiences with interesting detail.

Predict events in a story.

Concept - Hold conversations and debates

Take turns to talk, listening carefully to the contributions of others.

Vary language between formal and informal according to the situation.

Add humour to a discussion or debate where appropriate.

Communication Y3 and Y4

Concept - Listen carefully and understand

Engage in discussions, making relevant points.

Ask for specific additional information to clarify.

Understand the meaning of some phrases beyond the literal interpretation.

Concept - Develop a wide and interesting vocabulary

Use time, size and other measurements to quantify.

Use interesting adjectives, adverbial phrases and extended noun phrases in discussion.

Use vocabulary that is appropriate to the topic being discussed or the audience that is listening.

Concept - Speak with clarity

Use verbs with irregular endings.

Use a mixture of sentence lengths to add interest to discussions and explanations.

Use intonation to emphasise grammar and punctuation when reading aloud.

Concept - Tell stories with structure

Bring stories to life with expression and intonation.

Read the audience to know when to add detail and when to leave it out.
Concept - Hold conversations and debates
Make relevant comments or ask questions in a discussion or a debate.
Seek clarification by actively seeking to understand others' points of view.
Respectfully challenge opinions or points, offering an alternative.

Communication Y5 and Y6
Concept - Listen carefully and understand
Understand how to answer questions that require more than a yes/no or single sentence response.
Recognise and explain some idioms.
Understand irony (when it is obvious).
Concept - Develop a wide and interesting vocabulary
Use adventurous and sophisticated vocabulary.
Explain the meaning of words, offering alternatives.
Use a wide range of phrases that include determiners, modifiers and other techniques to add extra interest and clarity.
Concept - Speak with clarity
Vary the length and structure of sentences.
Ask questions and make suggestions to take an active part in discussions.
Comment on the grammatical structure of a range of spoken and written accounts.
Concept - Tell stories with structure
• Narrate detailed and exciting stories.
• Use the conventions and structure appropriate to the type of story being told.
• Interweave action, character descriptions, settings and dialogue.
Concept - Hold conversations and debates
Negotiate and compromise by offering alternatives.
• Debate, using relevant details to support points.
• Offer alternative explanations when others don't understand.