

The BSA good communication guide

When speaking to your child

- Slow down your rate of speech, but don't tell your child to slow down or take a deep breath.
- Let your child have special time when she leads the way with an activity of her choice.
- Ask one question at a time and give him plenty of time to answer.
- Use short, simple sentences.

When listening to your child

- Keep eye-contact.
- Pay attention to what your child is saying, not how he says it.
- Pause before answering questions.
- Make sure everyone gets a turn to speak.
- Acknowledge speech difficulties with reassurance and encouragement – not with corrections or criticism.

Other people

- Ask other adults in your child's life to follow this guidance.