

Strategies to Help Expressive Language Difficulties

Give child enough time to organise thoughts and form sentences

Encourage the child to use language within 1-to-1 and small group settings, and praise all attempts.

Give 'sentence starters'. They are often better than questions and will allow the child to succeed.

Give time and then prompts to help a child find the right word, e.g. "what do you do with it?" "do you know what sound it starts with?"

If a child uses an immature form, model the accurate sentence to encourage grammatical awareness, e.g. "yesterday I falled".
Teacher: "oh, you fell over did you?"

In speaking tasks, give the child a clear model of the type of sentence construction expected.

Encourage the child to use all means of communication, e.g. pictures, signs, symbols to get their message across

