

Early Language in everyday activities

Getting dressed and undressed

Sorting games

You could sort or match clothes by different features such as

Size – big or little. You could use very different sizes to make it easier. If your child has more language you could also use 'medium'

Colour or pattern – green, blue, stripey, spotty etc

Use - for sunny/rainy weather or to wear to a party/the beach



Loading / unloading the washing machine

Say 'in' every time you or your child put an item in the machine and 'out' every time you unload an item. After a few goes you could leave a pause and see if your child can say the word. Hold the item and look expectantly at them, or start it off and pause e.g. "put it...?" Don't worry if they don't, just keep modelling it to them. For children with more language you can use a longer utterance e.g. "socks in" or "mummy's socks in".



Useful words

Dressing can be good for modelling some groups of words

Possessives - who things belong to e.g. daddy's trousers, mummy's socks.

Pronouns - e.g. I put on my hat, then you put on your coat

Sequencing e.g. first we put on our coat, then / next we put on our shoes, last we put on our hat.

Word and sound play

Could you play around with or highlight some sounds as you dress. You could stretch them and make them a bit longer. 'zzzzz' as you do up zips; 'pop' with poppers; pushshsh when you put arms in, puuuul as you take legs out etc.

Suggested books to support dressing

Odd Dog Out (Rob Biddulph)

Aliens love Dinopants (Claire Freedman)

You Choose (Pippa Goodhart)

Simon Sock (Sue Hendra and Paul Linnet)

The Smartest Giant in Town (Julia Donaldson)

Tip: You don't have to 'read' the books, you can enjoy looking at the pictures, or making up your own stories!

Suggested rhymes to support dressing

This is the way we...
If you're wearing...

(words are included on page 2)

Tip: Be as creative as you like, Experiment with words.



dress



undress



Why not pay a visit to your local [Library](#)! Southampton Library Service are working together with the Speech & Language Consultant to offer a supply of suggested books in local libraries. **Anyone can join the library – it's free! Call in to your local library or join online: [Southampton | Libraries](#)**
(please have ID with you to get your Library Card)

You can borrow up to 20 books each time and swap them as often as you like. SCC Libraries don't charge for any damage to books by children and there are no fines for late returns.

Reading with your child is a great way to encourage speech, language and listening skills,
and visiting the library together is a free and fun activity!

This is the way we *To the tune of Mulberry bush song*

Ideas of words (but you can make up your own!)

This is the way we put on our **shoes**, put on our **shoes**, put on our **shoes**,
This is the way we put on our **shoes**, **early in the morning**



This is the way we put on our **coat**, put on our **coat**, put on our **coat**,
This is the way we put on our **coat**, **then we go to school**

This is the way we take off our **hat**, take off our **hat**, take off our **hat**
This is the way we take off our **hat**, **before we go inside**

Nursery Rhyme ideas and tips for making up your own nursery rhymes!

[Nursery rhymes and songs - BBC Tiny Happy People](#)

If you're wearing *To the tune of Mary Had a Little Lamb*

'If you're wearing **red** today, **red** today, **red** today, if you're wearing **red** today,
stand up and say hooray'

Can be adapted for any item of clothing or accessories, e.g. if you're wearing
sunglasses, boots, spotty clothes etc...

You could name some of the clothes your child is already wearing, or you could get out a variety of clothes and accessories and your child could listen for the clothing item you say and then put it on!

You can help your child by pointing to the clothing if they're not sure.