

Guidance for analysing a language interaction with a child or children

Record a language interaction you have with a child or a group of children. It is easiest to do this with a tape recorder or a digital recorder. Listen to the recording and fill in the points below.

Collect some simple statistics

Numbers of turns for each participant		Numbers of words spoken by each participant	
Child/children	Adult	Child/children	Adult

Numbers of questions asked by adult	Numbers of questions asked by child

What do the statistics tell you?

Consider such issues as:

Did I dominate the conversation?

Did I ask too many questions?

Did I respond fully to the children's talk?

Did I control the conversation?

Were the children able to lead the conversation?