

Autism Education Series: Engagement

What is Engagement?

When two or more people are together and enjoying the same activity at the same time

- Looking at each other, talking to each other, playing with toys together, physical touch, etc.

Why is Engagement important?

- Engagement is a pivotal area of development!
- When you engage with your child, you are showing your child you are attending to them, interested in them, and understanding them

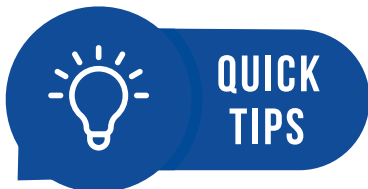
How can we help with Engagement?

Wait! Take a step back and watch your child while they play.

Watch! Look at what your child is interested in playing with and how they are playing with it.

Join in! Do what your child does while they play by copying their actions.

Add on! Show your child different play actions and use words to talk about the play.



- Be close to your child by sitting on the floor, laying on your belly, or bending on your knees.
- Use people games such as songs, tickles, horsey rides, bubbles, swings, chase, peek-a-boo, hide 'n seek.
- Be face-to-face with your child.
- Limit distractions. Put electronics away.
- Keep it fun! Be silly! If your child laughs, do it again!