

# 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.



### QUICK TIPS

- 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!

