

### **Motivating activities provide opportunities for communication and interaction development**

- Develop listening skills: Listen to stories / videos and interactive whiteboard activities/ music activities / musical statues, stop and go games.
- Develop play skills: Show and copy drama actions, use costumes, puppets, pretend play toys.
- Provide a multi-sensory approach to learning with sensory activities – taste, touch, sounds- instruments, bubbles, smell, coloured materials.
- Develop imitation skills and following directions: Use movement activities 'clap your hands', 'jump' and actions with objects – cause and effect toys, cookery and art activities.
- Encourage independent choice-making skills. Show options of motivating items – practise using a Makaton sign/ picture / say the word.
- Develop vocabulary: Use topic objects /symbols /photos – match, select, name different items. Pass the item - Do the Makaton sign / say the word. Objects in a bag - Take one object - What is it? /Who's got?
- Work on Categories – colour, shape, function (e.g. things you use to clean teeth). Put objects/ pictures in category boxes- give demonstration first.
- Promote Self-esteem: Use social skills activities – greetings songs, sharing games, taking and looking at photos, mirrors, personal communication book likes and dislikes, emotions pictures.
- Promote social skills and turn-taking group activities – ball games, parachute games, picture lotto, motivating toys.

