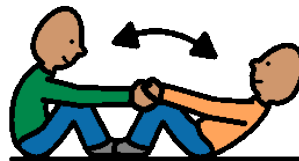


## PEOPLE GAMES

People Games are fun, physical activities that you can play with your child to help build their interaction and communication skills. The games don't usually include toys: you are the main part of the interaction and fun!

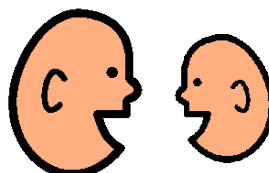
Some examples of people games are:

- Tickles
- Peekaboo
- Playing Horsey
- Swinging/ spinning your child
- Rough and Tumble family games
- Rhymes such as Pat-a-cake, Row-Row-Row your Boat, Ring-a-ring-a-Rosie, Round and Round the Garden, This Little Piggy etc



People games are important because they help children to learn early communication skills such as:

- Enjoying being with and attending to another person
- Developing their listening and attention
- Copying what other people do
- Taking turns with another person
- Understanding and using non-verbal communication such as eye contact and facial expression



When playing People Games together, remember to.....

## PEOPLE GAMES

- Choose a **Quiet Time**: turn off background noise and focus on playing and interacting with your child. Follow your child's lead; spend time playing with your child doing the People Games they love to do most. If they like to play by themselves, you could try playing alongside them and copying what they are doing; this will help them to learn about playing with people.
- Be **Face-to-Face**: get down to your child's level so they can see your facial expression and body language. Use exaggerated facial expressions and movements to gain and keep their attention.
- Use an **Interesting Voice**: Show your child that you are enjoying the interaction by using simple language, alongside your facial expressions to share your excitement. Try to use the same simple language each time for the People Game so that they hear the same language every time and have more opportunities to learn it.
- When they know the People Game well, **Pause and Wait** at a familiar place in the game to cue them to take a turn in the game. Try counting in your head up to 10 seconds while you wait. Wait expectantly for them to show you they want the game to continue. They might say a word, look at you, smile or use body movements like jumping up and down or moving your hands. When they take a turn, respond straight away and carry on with the People Game. Try another **Pause and Wait** later on, waiting for them to take another turn.