

# Communication

Special Education Services

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## Helping your child talk During everyday activities



### Activity: Part 2 - Do the obstacle course

**Skills:** following directions, giving directions, remembering, vocabulary, turn-taking.

**Materials:** The obstacle course you made with your child. A map of your obstacle course. (See activity: Part 1 - Make an Obstacle Course)

#### Instructions/strategies:

- Give simple instructions to help your child do the steps of the obstacle course.
- If your child does not understand:
  - Show the picture of the next step on the map you made.
  - Use gestures and pretend to do the action.
  - Take your child's hand and physically guide him or her to do the action.
- **Also try:** Take turns with your child. Your child gives the instructions and you do the obstacle course.
- **Also try:** Once you and your child have done the obstacle course a few times, do it one more time. This time, stop 1 or 2 times and ask if your child remembers what comes next. Use gestures to help your child remember!



**Tip:** You can help your child understand by making your words visual. Use pictures or act out what you're saying.

## Make it visual

#### Use Gestures:

Say the word and **act it out** (use a gesture) at the same time.

- For example: Say, "**Throw** the ball," and **pretend to throw** something.

#### Use Pictures:

Say the word and **show a picture** at the same time.

- For example: Say, "Throw the **ball**," and **point to the picture** of the ball on your map.