



What is it?

- It is an intervention to develop early communication and interaction skills.
- It aims to teach the basic fundamentals of communication alongside developing social skills and building relationships.

Why use it?

- A practical approach to encourage skills such as joint attention, sharing personal space, understanding and using non-verbal communication and encouraging vocalisation.
- To encourage enjoyment of being with another person.

How to do it

- Start by observing the child.
- Allow the child to lead the activity.
- Enter the child's world and be tuned in to any signs of response.
- Follow the child's lead mirroring their actions and vocalisations, gestures and facial expressions.
- Make your voice/face/body language delighted!
- Repeat and expand within and between different sessions.
- Pairs of objects are fun to use for example cause and effect toys, slinkies, scales etc.
- End the session whilst the child is still positively engaged.



Don't forget, Intensive Interaction can happen anywhere and at any time!

- With a bag of paired items
- In the sandpit
- Outside
- Watertray

Further information

<https://library.sheffieldchildrens.nhs.uk/intensive-interaction/>

