



## Therapi Iaith a Lleferydd i Blant Children's Speech & Language Therapy

# Syllable clapping

**Syllable clapping develops children's awareness of the structures of words. This is a helpful foundation skill for speech sound development and later literacy skills.**

### How?

- ★ Say each word slowly and clearly, emphasising each separate syllable with a clap, tap, nod or stamp!
- ★ Your child might not be ready to join in with you straight away, but they will be learning just by listening to you.
- ★ You can help your child by clapping the word with them (hand-over-hand clapping) or modelling clapping out the word for them to copy.
- ★ Don't worry about how they say the words, the aim is to say something for each syllable in the word.



### When?

- ★ *Names*: family members, friends, pets, favourite TV and book characters
- ★ *In the bath*: objects around the bathroom and body parts (e.g. head, elbow, leg)
- ★ *Shopping*: different kinds of food and drink
- ★ *Getting dressed*: items of clothing
- ★ *Out and about*: the things you see around you



**Click on the video link below for further information and ideas on how you can clap out syllables at home with your child.**

[Syllable clapping \(Cardiff and Vale SLT video on YouTube\)](#)