

What To Do If You Can't Understand Your Child

1. Ask the question in a different way such as giving a choice e.g., if your question was “What do you want to eat?”, change it to “Do you want a carrot or a cookie?”.
2. Try to get more information e.g., “Is it a toy?”, “What room is it in?”.
3. Ask your child to ‘show’ you what he is talking about.
4. Ask questions that can be answered yes/no, e.g., “Do you want juice?”.
5. Add more words to what your child has said e.g., if your child says “ba”, you might say “Bathroom. Do you want the bathroom?”
6. Watch what your child is trying to tell you. Look at his actions and facial expressions e.g., a child holding his stomach may be trying to tell you he feels sick.
7. Talk about the here and now i.e., what you are doing, objects around you, the room you are in etc.
8. It’s okay if sometimes you can’t understand your child.