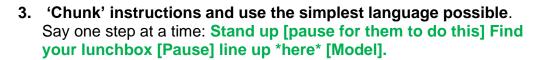
Enabling Instructions in the Early Years – Top Tips



- **1. Stop and pause before giving instructions.** Children are still learning to 'listen and do.'
- **2. Filter sound**: remove any unnecessary noise so children can listen to the instruction.





- 4. Give instructions in chronological order, this means saying them in the order it will happen. Rather than saying: 'Before we get our coats, put your book away.' Say 'First put your book away, next get your coat.'
- 5. Adapt the number of key words in instructions to meet the child's understanding.



- **6. Make the environment an enabling place to follow instructions** by having clear labels, showing children where different items 'live' and using pictureword labels around the space.
- 7. Explain the meaning of words we use frequently in instructions, such as: *tidy, bin, mix, share, line-up.* Don't presume children understand these tricky words that we use often.
- **8. Model the instruction,** 'talking out loud' as you do it.



- **9.Provide visuals** these will support children to understand what they are expected to do.
- 10. Use visuals to help children to understand rules and boundaries.

