

## Bubble snake

We all aim to be inclusive in the early years and to support any children who may need extra help to develop their skill-set.

Children with autism are often slower to develop communication and language skills. This fun activity is especially good for encouraging eye contact and developing speech sounds.

### Resources

- Plastic bottle
- Bubble mixture
- Sock
- String or an elastic band (always supervise closely if using bands).



### Activity Outline

- Remove lid from bottle and dispose of safely
- Cut the bottom off the bottom of the bottle
- Give each child a sock and support them to pull it up and over the bottom of the bottle then fold it back down so it fits tight
- Secure with a piece of string or elastic band
- Fill a shallow container with bubble mix
- Show child how to dip the sock end into the mixture and then ask them to blow through the top end
- A long bubbly snake should appear.
- For extra fun, why not add some food colouring in to the bubble mixture?

### Extension ideas

- During this activity, try making eye contact with the child for a short period of time and smile
- Only do this if the child is comfortable to reciprocate
- For older children, you could explain why making eye contact with people lets them know that you are listening
- For children who are not yet using words, you could teach some signs
- For children who are starting to develop speech you could emphasise initial sounds, such as 'b' bubbles, 'p' pop etc.
- For children with language, introduce new vocabulary such as frothy, hiss, froth etc.

### Did you know?

- Rounding the lips to blow bubbles helps children to develop sounds
- Blowing helps position the tongue for speech sounds that are made at the back of the mouth.