








High Quality Interaction

High Five		<p>This strategy encourages teachers to provide four statements or comments for every one question they ask during interactions with students. The aim is to model language, expand on children's ideas, and build vocabulary, rather than just testing their knowledge. For example, if a child is playing with blocks, a teacher might say:</p> <p>"I see you're building a tall tower." "It looks like it's really high!" "You're using lots of different colours." "Those blocks are carefully balanced."</p> <p>Then, the teacher could follow up with a question like, "What are you planning to build next?"</p>
Commentary		<p>This strategy involves adults providing a running commentary on their own actions, using rich language to model vocabulary and descriptive language for children. The adult narrates what they are doing as they engage in activities alongside the child. For example, if the adult is painting, they might say:</p> <p>"I'm dipping my brush the bright blue paint now." "I'm making long, sweeping strokes across the paper." "The colours are mixing together to create a beautiful shade of green." "Now, I'm adding tiny dots of yellow, almost like little stars." "I'm filling the top of the paper with different colours to make it look like a big sky."</p>
Verbal Labelling		<p>This strategy involves using target vocabulary to label things around the children in a sentence. For example, "I can see the stripy zebra" or "You're holding the shiny red ball." This helps children connect words with objects and enriches their language skills.</p>
Paraphrase		<p>This strategy involves repeating back what a child says, correcting any incorrect pronunciation or grammar, or expanding a partially formed idea into a complete sentence. For example, if a child says, "I goed to the park," the adult could respond, "You went to the park." Or if the child says, "Big truck," the adult could say, "Yes, that is a big, red truck driving down the road."</p>
Open Questions		<p>This strategy involves asking open-ended questions that encourage children to think and express their ideas in detail. These questions do not have just one correct or incorrect answer, which helps to create a safe space for children to share their thoughts. For example, you might ask, "What do you think will happen next in the story?" or "How did you make that? Can you tell me about it."</p>
Wait time		<p>This strategy emphasises the importance of giving children time to think before they respond. It's perfectly okay to have silence while you wait for them to gather their thoughts. For example, after asking a question like, "What do you think about this picture?" pause for a few moments.</p>
Make children think		<p>This strategy involves prompting children to think critically about what they might need to complete a task or solve a problem. Instead of simply asking for materials, you could ask questions like, "What do you think we might need to make this lantern?" or "What other tools could help us with our project?" This encourages children to explore their ideas and consider different possibilities, fostering creativity and problem-solving skills.</p>