



I CAN

helps children
communicate

KS2

Talk Boost

Talk Boost KS2 narrows the
gap between 7–10 year olds
with delayed language skills
and their peers



What is Talk Boost KS2?

Talk Boost KS2 is a targeted intervention for children in Years 3, 4 and 5 (7-10 year olds) who have delayed language, aiming to boost their language skills to help them to catch up with their peers.

The impact of Talk Boost KS2

Talk Boost KS2 was trialled in a carefully designed study with active and comparison groups. The evaluation showed that after eight weeks of running the intervention children made significant progress in language and communication with 67%

catching up with their peers in understanding language.

Learning in the classroom was easier; children joined in more, took part in discussions more and listened more carefully.

Questionnaires used with parents showed that 85% saw that their children's language skills had improved.

Introduction to Talk Boost KS2 / About Talk Boost KS2

About Talk Boost KS2

Talk Boost KS2 is a targeted intervention for children in Years 3-5 (7-10 year olds) who have delayed language development, aiming to boost their language skills and helping them to catch up with their peers.

Talk Boost KS2 consists of:



Talk Boost KS2 covers the following areas of language and communication, which are key skills for children to support them to:

- access the curriculum
- use their language to interact in the classroom
- form and maintain friendships



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Introduction to Talk Boost KS2 / About Talk Boost KS2

Evidence informed

The approaches and strategies used in Talk Boost KS2 are evidence informed; there is either direct research evidence to support a given strategy or it is informed by specialist experience.

Visual support

All the activities rely on visual support. Providing children with pictures, diagrams and props gives them a more permanent reminder about what they are doing, reading or talking about. These visual resources support the spoken message.

Repetition

Activities, key words and sentences are repeated to help children become more secure in their knowledge and understanding. Talk Boost KS2 has repetition and reinforcement built into the weekly activities.

Clear learning objectives for each session

These learning objectives should be shared with the children, in terms that they can easily understand, so that they know what is expected and will know if they have achieved it.

Explicit feedback

Research¹ shows that giving children clear feedback that links specifically with the learning objectives is one of the most effective methods for raising attainment. This is a feature of the session reviews as well as the activities in Week 8, Session 3.

Meta-linguistic skills

Meta-linguistic awareness is the ability to reflect on the use of language. It is important in supporting the development of learning as well as more sophisticated use of language. Talking about language and communication, and encouraging children to use language to talk about their language, helps them to become more aware of what skills they need to demonstrate. The description of the activities in Talk Boost KS2 includes suggestions for what to say to help children develop their meta-linguistic awareness.

Talk

Week 1 / Listening carefully / Session 1

Week 1: Session 1 Summary

Activity	Time	Learning objective / Activity description	Resources provided
Activity 1	5-10 minutes	Be aware of what talking is, what we use when we're talking and why we talk. Talk about 'What is talking?', noting children's ideas on the Talking head poster	1 Talking head poster 2 Talking head poster: completed example Resources you need to find: • Pens to use on the re-usable Talking head poster
Activity 2	10 minutes	Know three things that we must do to show we are listening carefully. Demonstrate good listening so that children recognise good listening behaviours	1 Good listening picture prompt cards
Activity 3	5 minutes	Show good listening skills. Two children have a short conversation while the other two check for use of good listening skills	1 Good listening checklist (see copy)
Review	5 minutes	What have we learned and practised today? Complete the Session review chart	1 Session review chart

Week 1 / Listening carefully / Session 1

Week 1: Session 1 Activity 1

Learning objective

Be aware of what talking is, what we use when we're talking and why we talk.

Time: 5-10 minutes

- Make sure the children are settled, sitting around the Talking head poster (Resource 1).
- Ask them the following questions, one at a time, giving all the children time to respond before moving on to the next question. Responses that you might get are shown in brackets – you don't have to get ALL of these ideas from the children but you might want to give some clues if they are struggling for ideas:
 - What's talking? (making or using sounds, words, sentences, speaking, listening, communicating)
 - What do we use when we're talking? (see use our mouth, eyes, ears, hands)
 - Why do we talk? (sharing ideas, thinking, telling stories, learning, making friends, saying how we feel, finding things out)

Write the children's ideas head outline on the poster as they speak. Suggestions linked to be placed inside the speech bubble. Completed example is shown.

Resources 1

- When the children have the Talking head poster to their answers to the three questions, Week 1, Session 1.
- Then explain: Over next Talk Boost KS2 is going to help them to be better at all these things.

Notes

Learning objective Use the term appropriate to (see page 11) and share the children.

Time Timings are approximate but pace of learning task.

Re-usable resources Make sure you use whiteboards that can be wiped off and can use the poster again.

Write the children's ideas head outline on the poster as they speak. Suggestions linked to be placed inside the speech bubble. Completed example is shown.

Resources 1

When the children have the Talking head poster to their answers to the three questions, Week 1, Session 1.

Then explain: Over next Talk Boost KS2 is going to help them to be better at all these things.

Write the children's ideas head outline on the poster as they speak. Suggestions linked to be placed inside the speech bubble. Completed example is shown.

Resources 1

Talk Boost KS2 Tracker / Years 3 & 4

Year 3
Child's name: _____ Date of Tracker: _____ Date of birth: _____
Age: Years _____ Months _____ Male/Female _____ What language(s) does the child speak at home? _____
Name of person completing the Tracker: _____

Year 3: Score summary BEFORE Talk Boost KS2

	Total score BEFORE Talk Boost KS2	Working below age expectations	Working towards age expectations	Working at age expectations
Listening carefully	0-5	6 7 8	9-15	
Vocabulary	0-5	6 7 8	9-15	
Telling stories and saying what happens	0-5	6 7 8	9-15	
Working with others and having conversations	0-5	6 7 8	9-15	
Overall total score	0-20	24-27 28-31 32-35	36-40	

BEFORE score action to take
Further investigation or referral for speech and language therapist
Targeted support: 6-8 Can Boost also
Quality time teaching

Talk Boost KS2 Tracker / Years 3 & 4 / 1

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Talk Boost KS2 Intervention Manual

Talk Boost KS2 training

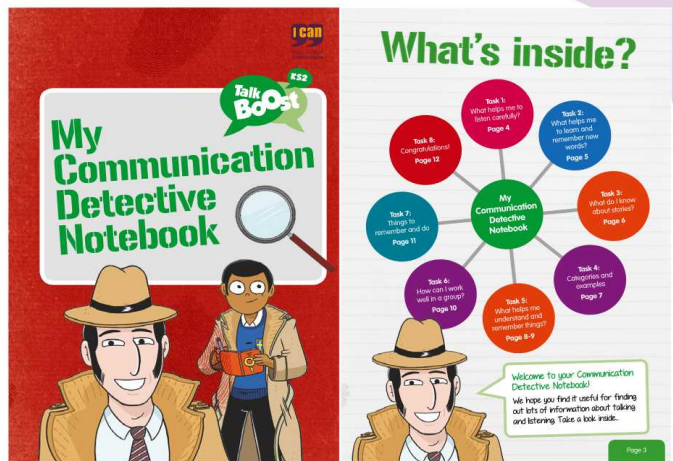
Talk Boost KS2 training is for teachers and TAs working with children in years 3, 4 and 5. It is important that staff attend the training in teacher/TA pairs as delivery of the intervention involves them working together.

What will you learn?

The training will give you the context for *Talk Boost KS2* by developing your awareness of speech, language and communication and typical language development in KS2. It will help you to understand how to run the intervention including how to identify appropriate children, measure their progress and use the resources, and how to follow this up in class.

How is this training delivered to you?

Talk Boost KS2 is a one day course delivered in your work place. If you are a small school you might wish to consider grouping your staff together with other schools for the training and sharing the costs between yourselves. We have a team of Licensed Tutors who also deliver *Talk Boost KS2* training.



How much does Talk Boost KS2 cost?

We have a team of Licensed Tutors who deliver *Talk Boost KS2* training. The Intervention Pack is purchased from I CAN at a cost of £500 per TA/Teacher pair + the cost of the Licensed Tutor delivering your training.



'The children have really enjoyed the intervention. The year 4 class teacher has noticed a difference in their confidence and putting their hands up. It's really worked as well for the listening and group skills of the Year 3 children. I'm already running another group with more children.' *Kay Webber, TA, Bridgwater College Academy*

**For more information
contact I CAN today:**

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020 7843 2515

www.ican.org.uk

'Before Talk Boost I would never have thought that those children would have stood up in front of the class and performed a role play activity' *Year 3 teacher, Birchfield School*

'This intervention enabled all of the children to make progress with their communication skills. It has particularly improved their ability to work in groups. The children have loved having this support and parent feedback has been positive with most parents noticing an improvement in their child's speaking and listening skills'. *SENCo, St James Church School, Somerset*

