

## Section 2.10

# Learning to use 'my own name'

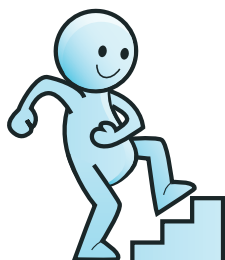


### Why is this important?

Children refer to themselves by name before they learn to use the pronoun 'I'. Pronouns can be tricky to learn because they change depending on who is doing the talking. Using a child's own name is the first stage of this process.

### What to do

- Play turn-taking games such as rolling a ball to each other or building a tower together.
- Signify whose turn it is by naming (e.g. 'Mummy's turn', 'Flynn's turn') rather than using 'my'/'your'.
- Occasionally pause and see if the child fills in whose turn it is.



### Step up

- Use opportunities to associate names with the pronoun, e.g.
  - ★ 'Mummy's opening the door: *I'm* opening the door.'
  - ★ 'Sasha's having milk: *you're* having milk.'
- Hand out items (e.g. 'One for you, one for me').

### Step down

- As you talk during everyday activities, refer to yourselves using names rather than pronouns (e.g. 'Daddy's coat', 'Samil jump', 'Mrs Brown help').

