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Developing Language Skills in Children with ASD at Beginning Level

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How Does ASD Affect Communication?

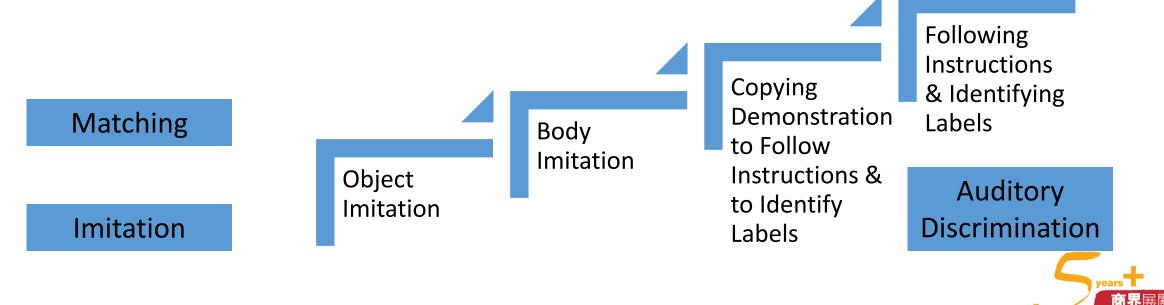
- Difficulties in developing expressive language
- Challenges in understanding language
- Impairments in using non-vocal means to communicate





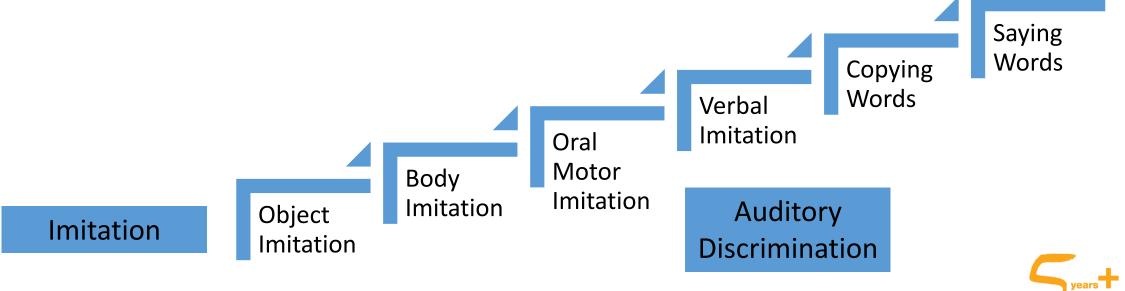
Early Receptive Language Development

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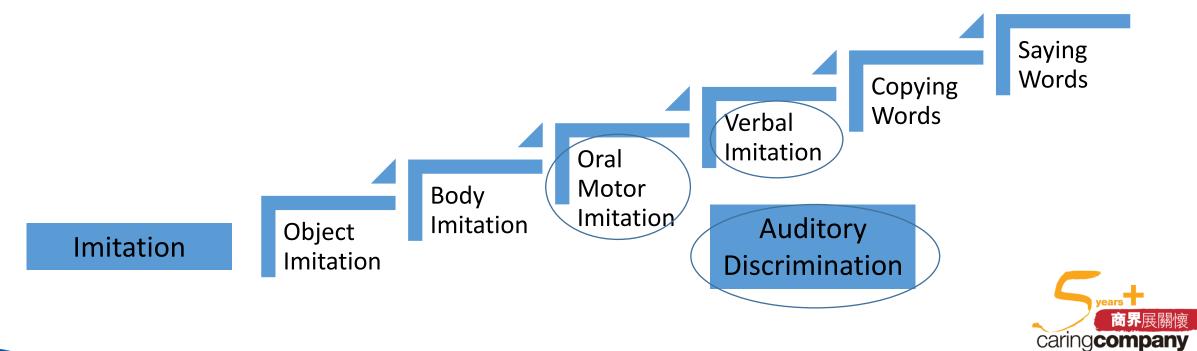
Early Expressive Language Development







Expressive Language Development





Auditory Discrimination

- Fundamental skill for learning receptive and expressive language
- Discriminating different sounds
- Matching sounds with associated objects





Auditory Discrimination





Oral Motor Imitation

- Refined imitation
- Focusing on mouth movements involving different parts of the mouth e.g., lips, tongue, palate
- Building blocks for making different sounds





Oral Motor Imitation





Verbal Imitation

- Applying previous imitation skills on learning how to speak
- Core skill for learning speech





Verbal Imitation





From Verbal Imitation to Requesting





From Verbal Imitation to Naming Objects





Pointers

- Maximize motivation
- Optimal learning opportunities
- Realistic expectations
- Quantity over quality (at first)
- Fun and positive learning experiences









