

Welcome to the Friends of Tennessee's Babies with Special Needs web site. My name is Robin. Using expression when we communicate throughout the day can help a child to develop language. Some of the ways to communicate expressively include using touch, gestures, intonation and interesting facial expressions. I'm about to tell you a well-known children's story. You can make this story as complex or as simple as you want depending on the age of the child. Try to recognize some of the communication techniques we've discussed as I tell the story.

This is the story of the three little pigs and the big bad wolf. Once upon a time, there were three little pigs. They lived with their mama. One day Mama gathered her little pigs and said, "Pigs, it's time for you to go out and build your own house; but be careful of the big bad wolf." The three little pigs said, "OK Mama." And off they went. "Bye, bye Mama." The first little pig decided he was going to build his house out of straw. He ran into a man and he said, "I want to buy some straw." So he bought the straw and he started to build his house. Work- work- work- work- work- work- work- work-work- work- work- work. And he had a nice house. "Whew, I'm tired," said the pig. And he sat down to have him a cup of tea. When all of a sudden: Dum Da Dum Dum—Dum Da Dum Dum Dum! The big bad wolf! Knock Knock Knock Knock! "Little pig, little pig, let me come in!" "Uh, no no no, not by the hair of my chinny chin chin, will I open my door and let you come in. Go away wolf!" Well the big bad wolf said. "I'm gonna huff, and I'm gonna puff, and I'm gonna BLOOOOOOW your house down." WHOOSH, and the house came tumbling down and the little pig said, "Ohhhh," and he ran as fast as he could to his brother's house.

The second little pig decided he was going to build his house out of sticks. So he was walking down the road and he met a man and said, "I would like to buy some sticks." So he bought the sticks and he went to work. Work- work- work- work- work- work- work- work-work- work- work- work-work. And he built his house out of sticks. "Whew, I'm tired," said the pig so he sat down to drink him a cup of tea. When: Dum Da Dum Dum—Dum Da Dum Dum Dum! The big bad wolf! Knock Knock Knock Knock! "Little pig, little pig, let me come in!" "No no no, not by the hair of my chinny chin chin, will I open my door and let you come in. Go away wolf!" The big bad wolf said. "I'm gonna huff, and I'm gonna puff, and I'm gonna BLOOOOOOW your house down." WHOOSH, and the house came tumbling down and the two little pigs went running as fast as they could to their brother's house.

Now the third little pig was a smart little pig and he decided to build his house out of bricks because bricks are very, very strong. So he was walking down the road one day and he met a man with bricks. "I want to buy some bricks to build me a strong house." So he bought the bricks and he went to work. Work- work- work- work- work- work- work- work-work- work- work- work. "Whew, I'm tired!" said the pig. "Let's all have a cup of tea." So the three little pigs sat and had a cup of tea. When all of a sudden: Dum Da Dum Dum—Dum Da Dum Dum Dum! The big bad wolf! Knock Knock Knock Knock! "Little pig, little pig, let me come in!" "No no no, not by the hair of my chinny chin chin, will I open my door and let you come in. Go away wolf!" Well the wolf said. "I'm gonna huff, and I'm gonna puff, and I'm gonna BLOOOOOOW your house down." WHOOSH! But the house did not fall down. So the wolf decided he was going to try again. WHOOSH! But the house still did not fall down. Eww, now the wolf was mad! He decided, "Um, I know what I'm going to do." He went around to the back of the house, saw the chimney and decided to climb up on the roof to slide down into the house. So here he

went. UP- UP- UP- UP –SLIIIIIIIDE! What the wolf didn't know was that the three little pigs had a big pot of hot water boiling in the fire place, so when the wolf slid down, "OWWWWW!" he landed in the hot water and off he ran. And the three little pigs never saw the big bad wolf again. And they lived happily ever after. The end.

I hope that you will be encouraged to use some of these techniques to make your communication with a child more interesting. Because, remember, babies can't wait.