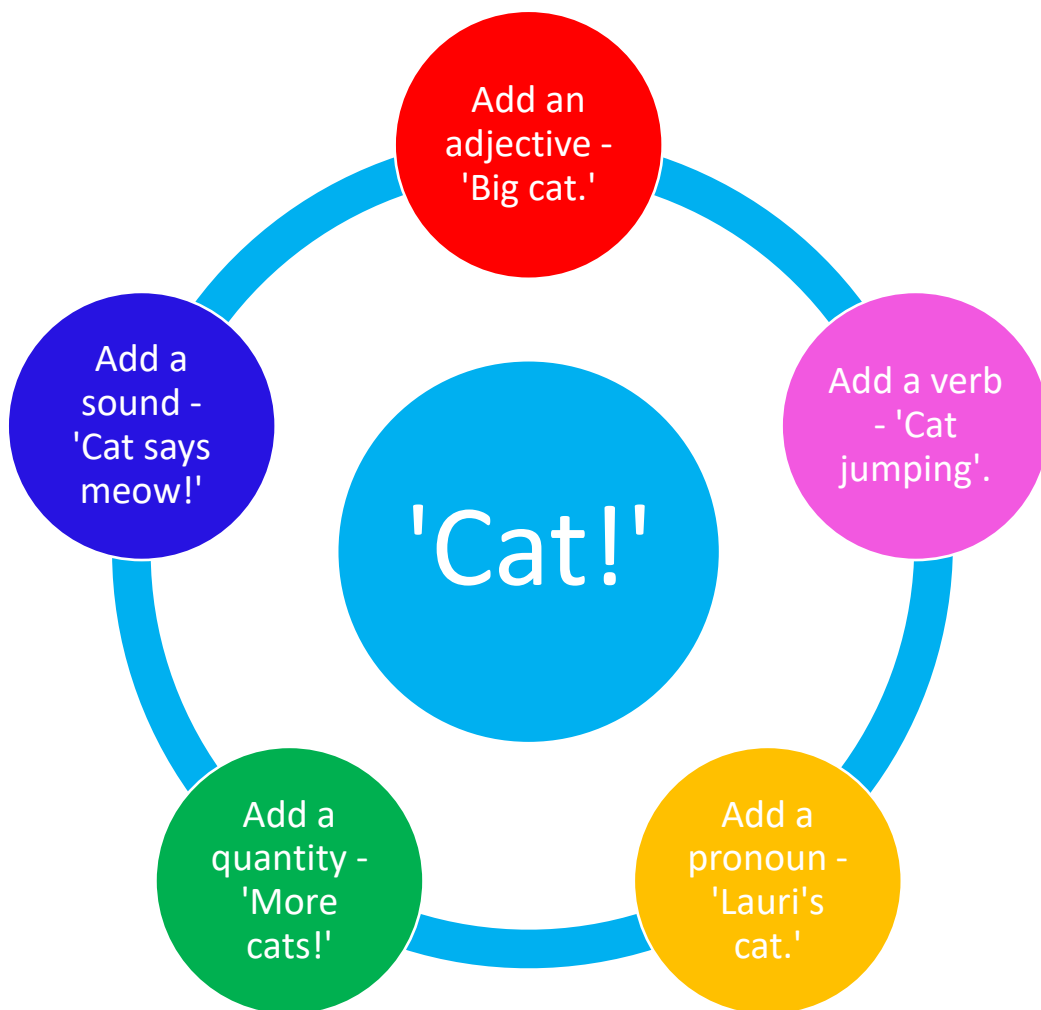


### Building on What Children Say – Expansions

*This is when the adult repeats back what the child has said and adds one or two more words.*

This strategy helps support those children who are still learning to talk.

Imagine you and a child are sharing a story and the child sees a picture of a cat. The child calls out excitedly, 'Cat!'. What could you say?



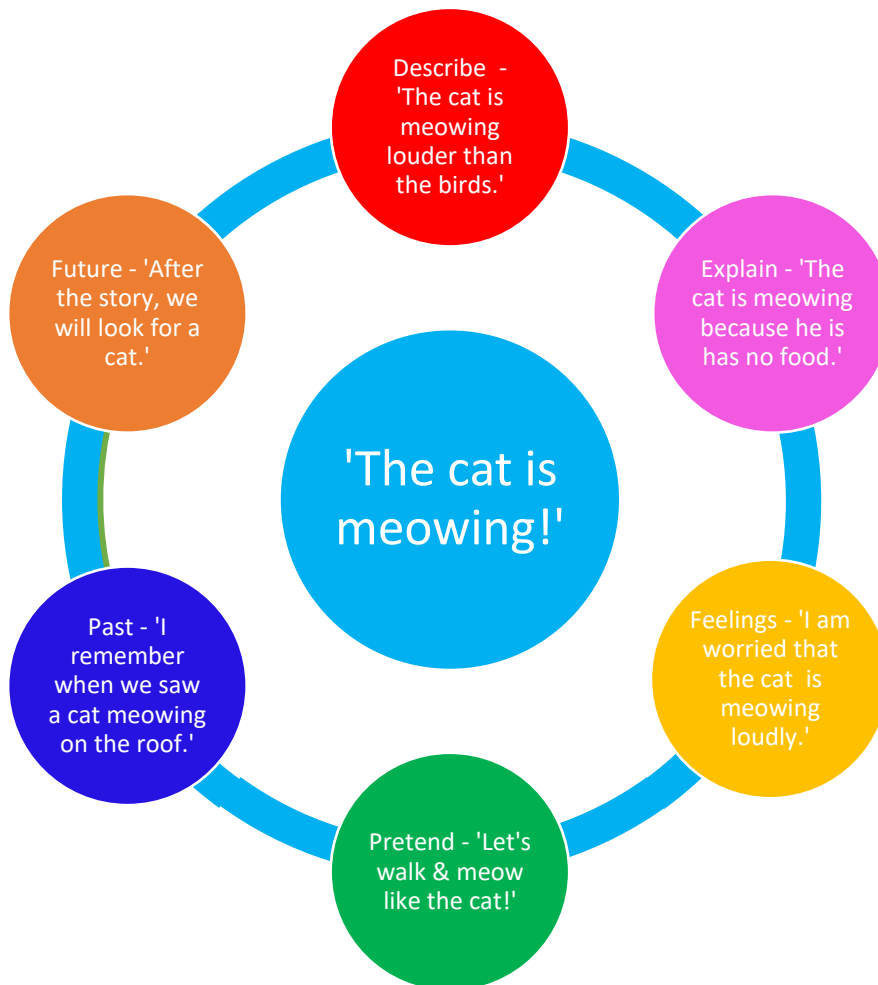
By repeating back what the child has said, you show that you are listening to them, and that you are interested in what they have to say. By building on what they say, you keep the focus on things which are motivating to them while offering them a model of the words they might want to try and say in the future. This idea not only helps them learn new words but it also helps your child learn how to put words together to make short phrases.

### Building on What Children Say - Extensions

*This is when the adult repeats back what the child has said and adds new information, based on the child’s interests, which is beyond the here and now.*

This strategy helps support those children who have begun to use short phrases.

Imagine you and a child are sharing a story and the child sees a picture of a cat. The child says, ‘The cat is meowing.’ What could you say?



By building on what the child has already said, you keep the focus on things which are motivating to them while offering them a model of the words they might want to try and say in the future. When the focus of the conversation is on something which is interesting or motivating to the child, back and forth conversations are easier to achieve. This is because the child is more likely to pay attention to what you are saying, therefore they may listen in and make links which help them understand and talk more about their world.