Attention and Listening Levels

(Cooper, Moodley and Reynell)

Answers

Attention Level	**Strategies**
Level 1: 0-1 year Child very distractible. Attention is fleeting. Focussed on whatever is their current interest	- Find out what motivates the child - Use the child's interests and incorporate these into play
Level 2: 1-2 years Child can attend to own choice of activity for a longer period of time but can only focus on one task at a time	- Give child time to complete own choice of activity - Use the child's name and/or a physical prompt to gain their attention
Level 3: 2-3 years Still single channelled attention but can now shift attention away from current task and go back to original activity with support	- Say the child's name before giving any instructions or expecting a response

Level 4: 3-4 years Single channelled but more easily controlled, require less adult support to go from doing to listening and back again	- Use visual prompts to gain attention - Tell the child it is time to listen - Encourage the child to carry on working whilst listening to you e.g. practice this using colouring activity
Level 5: 4-5 years Integrated attention for short periods of time – can perform an activity whilst listening to an instructions	- Use an introductory phrase or gesture - Give information in a clear order - Praise good listening
Level 6: 5-6 years Integrated attention well Established, attention is flexible and can be sustained for long periods	- Encourage active listening and processing of information