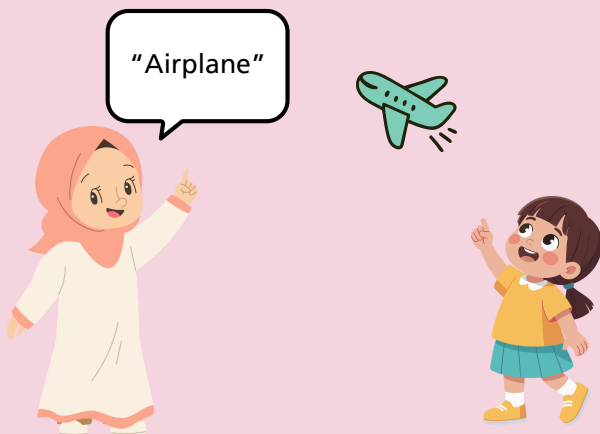


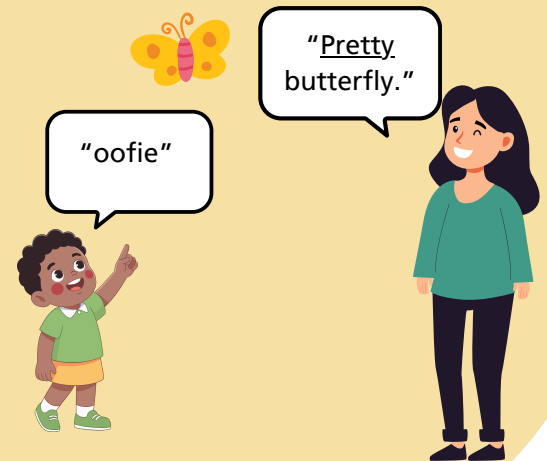
# Imitate and add

- Children like it when you imitate their words and gestures! It encourages them to keep saying that word.
- To support your child in using more words or a longer sentence, follow their lead and imitate their sentence adding on a word or two. Keep your sentence grammatical.
- There is no expectation that your child repeats the sentence back to you. What is important is that they are hearing a longer, or more complex sentence that they may try and say next time.

**For example:** Child points. Adult **imitates** by also pointing and **adds** by saying "airplane."



**For example:** Child says "oofie." Adult guesses that they tried to say "butterfly." **Imitate** and **add** by saying "pretty butterfly." Do not imitate the mispronunciation.



"Big brown puppy!"

"Big puppy!"



**For example:** Childs says "*big puppy.*" Adult can **imitate** and **add** by saying "*big brown puppy!*"