

# How can I support my learner's processing style?

1. Recognize when "thinking" is happening.
2. Protect that space by being quiet, until they are ready for more information.
3. Offer information when you can see they are "ready".

Some cues that can communicate, "I'm thinking" (and I'm not yet ready for new or more information.)

- Looking away
- Body not physical close to ours
- Looking up ("thinking gaze")
- Not responding when language is directed at them
- Moving away
- Pacing
- Eyes closed
- Eyes closed and smiling
- Focused intently on something else
- Body turned away from ours
- Verbal protests such as, "No!", "Stop it", "I don't want to talk about that", "Stop talking." or even "Shut up!"
- Crying, melting down, or other indicators of overwhelm
- Hiding their face in their shirt or a blanket



Some cues that can communicate "I am now ready for new or more information."

- Visually referencing (or looking towards) us
- Responding to our language or communicative bid with language or an action
- Coming close to, or physically approaching, us
- Turning their body towards us
- Touching our arm or shoulder
- Gently touching something we are holding
- Initiating communication through gestures, sounds, language or actions
- Joining us in what we are doing or responding to our invitation

