

# Declarative language



## What is it?

Declarative language is a style of speaking that relies on direct or indirect observations in order to communicate ideas, as opposed to imperative language which relies on directing another person to act. Examples of imperative language are "Go put your shoes on" and "Have you put your shoes on yet?" An example of declarative language is "We're leaving soon and I have your shoes."

## Why is it of value?

It takes some of the implied demands out of language by giving room for processing what's going on so we can respond in our own way. Because PDA children are uniquely sensitive to the perception of demands, allowing room in our language for them to draw conclusions and make choices is one less stress for them to manage

## Is it unclear or confusing?

There are many ways to use declarative language, from more direct observations to less direct, and it can be customized to the child's needs

## Limits of declarative language

Declarative language can't remove all demands. Like low demand parenting, it's part of a toolkit for smoothing interactions with PDA kids

