**Communication with children**

**Learning objectives**

* To know the definition of communication
* To know the type of communication
* To know the elements of communication
* To understand the factors that effect on communication
* To know the nursing role in communication

**Communication** (from Latin *commūnicāre*, meaning "to share" [[1]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Communication#cite_note-1)) is the activity of conveying [information](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Information) through the exchange of ideas, feelings, intentions, attitudes, expectations, perceptions or commands,

Or

***Communication*** can be defined as the process by which people share ideas, experience, knowledge and feelings through the transmission of symbolic messages.

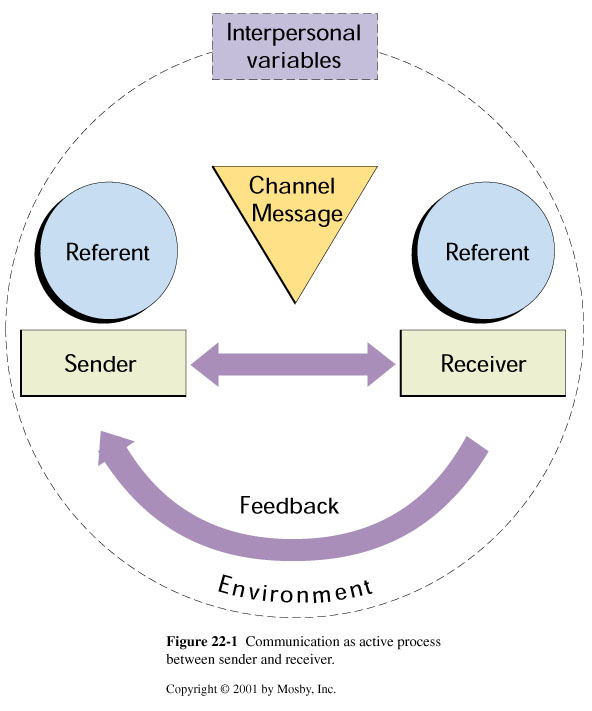
***Interpersonal communication*** is a person to person, two-way, verbal and non verbal interaction that includes the sharing of information and feelings . in health care settings takes place between service providers and their clients and members of the community

**What are the most common ways we communicate**

* Spoken Word
* Written Word
* Visual Images
* Body Language (Gestures, movements)

**Elements of Communication**

* Source (sender) or (nurse)
* Channel (Message) or( nursing care )
* Receiver (patient)
* Feedback



**Effective communications**

* Clear and concise
* Accurate
* Active listening
* Relevant to the needs of the receiver
* Timely
* Meaningful
* Applicable to the situation
* Know the subject well
* Be interested in the subject
* Know the audience members and establish a rapport with them
* Speak at the level of the receiver
* Choose an appropriate communication channel

**Barriers to communication**

* Language
* Values and beliefs
* Child age
* Economic status for family
* Child Educational level
* Physical barriers (mental disorder ,learning disorder)
* Attitude
* Timing
* Understanding of message
* Trust

**Communication techniques for children**

* + Play
  + Draw, paint, sculpt
  + Storytelling, word games
  + Read books; watch movies, videos
  + Write

**Basic for nursing communicating with children**

* Introduce yourself and explain your role
* Position should be at level of child
* Allow to parent stay with child if need
* Smile and eye contact with child
* All quest ion direct and explanation if need
* Good listening and pause
* Use family terms
* Speak calm ,quit and confident
* Use positive statement
* Encourage child to express his feeling
* Observe nonverbal cues
* Older children need privacy