

Teaching a child to answer their name

Four steps, and the first one is to stop repeating it.

1 Say it once, then stop.

A name said five times teaches a child that they can wait it out. Say it once, then help the turn happen.



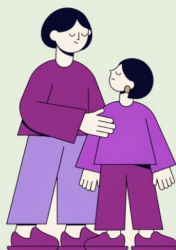
2 Start close, and start easy.

Arm's length, a quiet room, nothing they love already in their hands. Distance and noise come later.



3 Help the turn rather than waiting for it.

Move into their line of sight, or touch the shoulder. Waiting for a turn that is not coming teaches nothing.



4 Make turning worth it, immediately.

Whatever they like most, the second they look. Answering a name has to pay better than ignoring it.

