The Disappearing Dummy ...

Jill Murphy
THE LAST NOO-NOO

Laura believes:

"Going down the path of getting rid of your child's dummy without too many stresses and tantrums isn't always easy. The befits however can be really enlightening, as I sometimes find a little person may not always have a large vocabulary of words as they simply cannot talk when a dummy is in their mouth.

The real benefit of not having a dummy for me is hearing the children's beautiful words ... which then leads on to a whole new journey of exploring language ... "
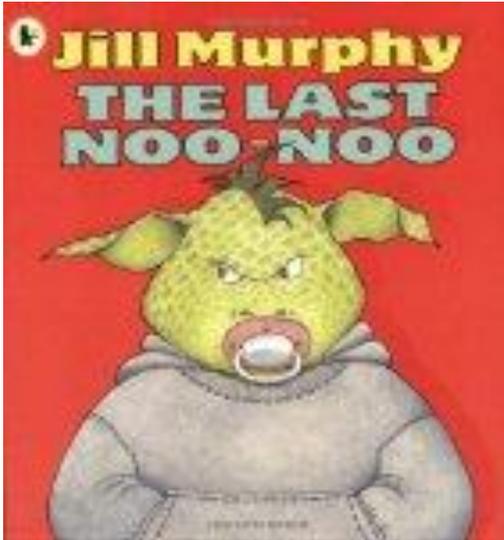
A note from your special carer:

How to encourage your child from having a dummy:

- First. Don't use the dummy as your first choice.

- Try to get your child used to having a dummy only when they are going to sleep.

- Take the dummy out of your child's mouth when they are asleep.

- Always make sure that your child takes the dummy out of their mouth When they are talking.

- When your child cries, try to think of another way of comforting them

- Don't use a dummy to get your child to be quiet.

- Don't pin the dummy to their clothes or hang it round their neck.

- Don't let your child walk around with a dummy in their mouth.

- Be persistent and don't give in

- Does your child always carry a dummy?

- Does your child have the dummy in their mouth during the day?

- Does your child have more than one dummy?

- Does your child try to talk with the dummy in their mouth?

- Are your child's teeth growing evenly or are the top ones shorter than the others?

- Does your child nod or shake his head, point or gesture, rather than take the dummy out of their mouth to talk?

- If you answered "yes" to more than one of these questions this may mean that your child's dummy is becoming a problem.

If your child is feeling unwell they still may need their dummy for comfort or support. Firstly it is so important to make sure there personal social and emotional needs are catered for and your child does not become even more upset as we all know how horrible we can feel when we are under the weather.