

# Rachel Callander

## *Resource Pack*

## EVIE'S AWESOMENESS

### *Can your child play sleeping tiger and other great games?*

- ✔ **YES!** Evie loves games and interacts by laughing, kicking, flapping and moving close to us.

### *Does your child laugh when objects fall near her face?*

- ✔ **YES!** Evie loves when we drop cushions or soft toys beside her. She laughs when we move or tip the couch and enjoys loud noises.

### *Can your child play for over 30 minutes in an Excer-saucer?*

- ✔ **YES!** Evie loves being in her saucer and plays with the objects really well.

### *Can your child play with your hair, face and earrings?*

- ✔ **YES!** Evie will reach out to touch my face, and pull my hair or earrings. She pulls very gently.

### *Can your child hold her legs and nearly her toes?*

- ✔ **YES!** Evie plays with her knees when she is contented and can almost reach her toes

### *Can your child hold a spoon and feed herself yoghurt?*

- ✔ **YES!** Evie can feed herself half a teaspoon at a time when she is in the right mood, and she can feed herself from her bottle.

### *Can your child roll competently?*

- ✔ **YES!** Evie is a pro roller! She even commando rolls in stealth mode for extra sneakiness. She will roll to get places really quickly.

### *Can your child do assisted pull-ups, holding her head up?*

- ✔ **YES!** Evie does this very well, using her dad to help her. Her record is thirteen in a row!



Movement

Character

Activities they enjoy

Interactions

Communication

Sounds they make

Things only you do together

Things that intrigue you

Personality

Uniqueness

Impact on others'

Enjoyment

Nourishment

Emotions

Things that surprise you

Music or sounds they like

Lessons they've taught you

Objects or textures they enjoy

This list of categories, serve as starting points to help you think of your questions. Pick from as many as you like!

See the next pages for some examples.



### **1. How she moves**

Can your child crawl eerily quickly when your back is turned? YES!

Does your child continue to try to get back up over and over after she's fallen? YES!

Does your child communicate a serious attitude with the haughtiness of her crawl? YES!

### **2. How she interacts**

Does your child make new friends with a single smile? YES!

Does your child love the best people nearly immediately? YES!

### **3. The sounds she makes**

Is your child's laugh the most delicious sound in the world? YES!

### **4. How she communicates**

Does your child use her eye gaze device to poetically capture ideas like "sleep think" and "most magically"? YES!

Can your child hold a room captive with well-timed eye gaze jokes? YES!

### **5. How she lets you know her emotions and what she wants**

Can your child tell you important complex things with a touch, a motion, or an "uh huh"? YES!

Does your child like to show off how smart she is by saying things like "Ketchup with me and I'll tell you"? YES!



## **6. What you enjoy doing together**

Is your favourite thing to do with your child to watch her enjoy new experiences? YES!

## **7. What she enjoys doing independently**

Has your child shown a propensity to wordlessly talk others into doing things for her? YES!

## **8. Anything special only you two do together**

Do you and your child manage to make friends and open doors that take her to extraordinary places like Disney Animation Studios? YES!

## **9. Things that surprise and intrigue you**

Has your child managed to show you that when she is challenged, she can learn to do apparently impossible things? YES!

## **10. Objects or textures she likes**

Does your child keep v-tech's toy car division afloat? YES!

## **11. Musical or visual things she enjoys**

Has your child's love of the Muppets led you to see The Muppets and The Muppets Most Wanted more times than the people who edited the movie? YES!



## Awesomeness Form | Esmé

Can your child crawl eerily quickly when your back is turned?  **YES!**

Does your child continue to try to get back up over and over after she's fallen?  **YES!**

Does your child communicate a serious attitude with the haughtiness of her crawl?  **YES!**

Does your child make new friends with a single smile?  **YES!**

Does your child love the best people nearly immediately?  **YES!**

Is your child's laugh the most delicious sound in the world?  **YES!**

Does your child use her eye gaze device to poetically capture ideas like "sleep think" and "most magically"?  **YES!**

Can your child hold a room captive with well-timed eye gaze jokes?  **YES!**

Can your child tell you important complex things with a touch, a motion, or an "uh huh"?  **YES!**

Does your child like to show off how smart she is by saying things like "Ketchup with me and I'll tell you"?  **YES!**

Is your favourite thing to do with your child to watch her enjoy new experiences?  **YES!**

Has your child shown a propensity to wordlessly talk others into doing things for her?  **YES!**



Do you and your child manage to make friends and open doors that take her to extraordinary places like Disney Animation Studios?  **YES!**

Has your child managed to show you that when she is challenged, she can learn to do apparently impossible things?  **YES!**

Does your child keep v-tech's toy car division afloat?  **YES!**

Has your child's love of the Muppets led you to see The Muppets and The Muppets Most Wanted more times than the people who edited the movie?  **YES!**

## Awesomeness Form | Max

Does your child have model-worthy hair?  **YES!** The first thing everyone comments on when they meet Max is how amazing his hair is.

Does your child laugh uncontrollably when he hears his brother getting reprimanded?  **YES!** Like a true big brother, he loves it when his little brother gets in trouble.

Does your child love the sound of his parent's voices?  **YES!** Especially daddy. Max will be quiet and the moment he hears daddy's voice, he starts "talking" and moving his head, searching for him.

Does your child like proving the "experts" wrong?  **YES!!!** All. The. Time. He's been told therapy wouldn't help, but Max has proven them wrong time and time again.

Does your child bring out the best in you?  **YES, YES and YES!!!** He brings out the best in all of us..

Does your child love learning new ways to interact and communicate with his little brother, Zac?  **YES!** Zac is learning in his own way how he can interact with his big brother. He's already learned which sounds make Max laugh and smile.

Does your child love listening to certain sounds like the maracas or Velcro ripping?  **YES!**

Does your child fall asleep the moment his tough, but loving occupational therapist comes for a session, sleeps through the whole therapy, then wakes up the moment she leaves?  **YES!**



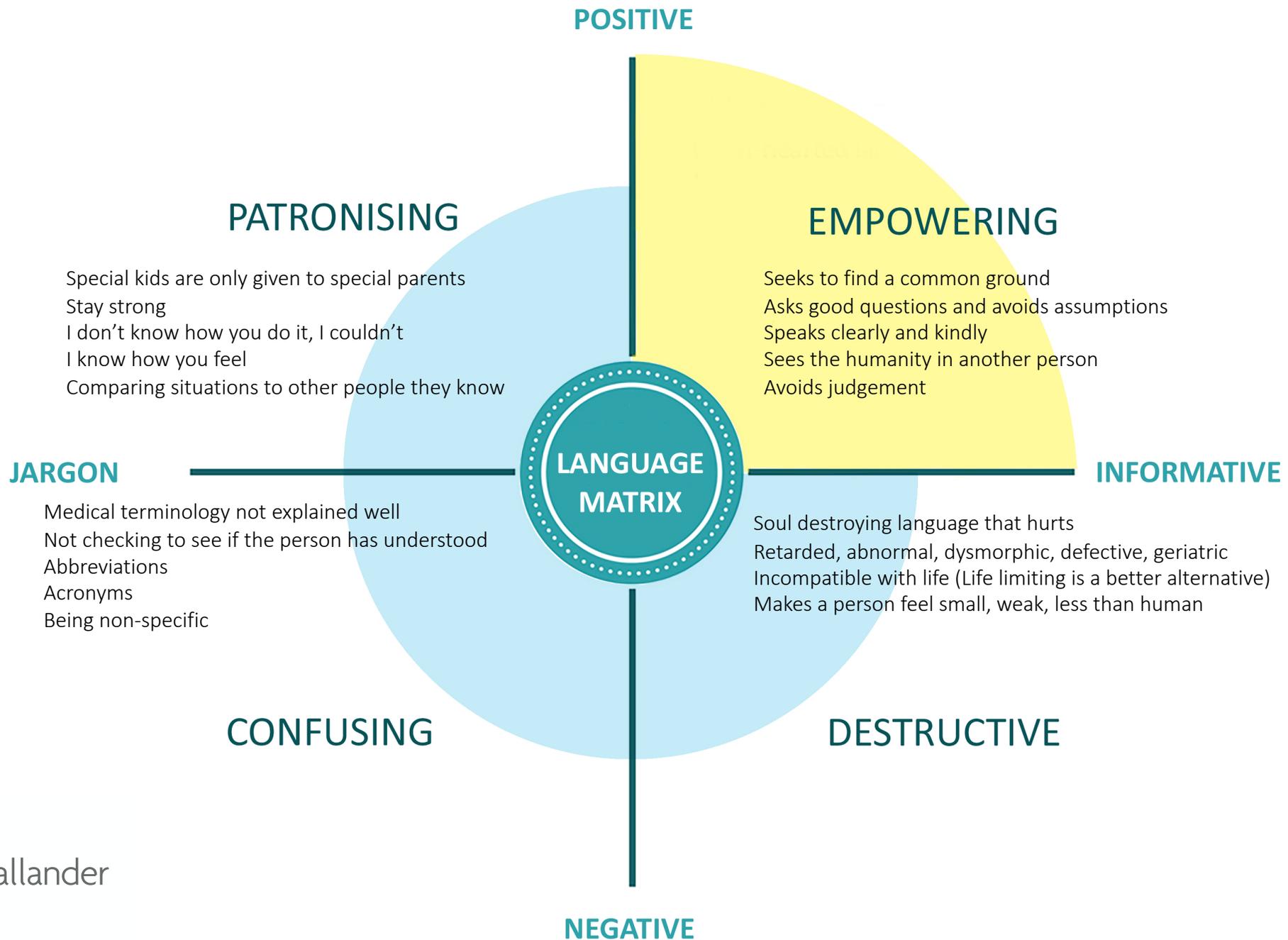
Does your child love it when he is able to ride a ride in Disney with his dad, especially the rides that are animated and have drops and turns?  **YES!**

Does your child light up when he "sees" fireworks even though you were told he has Cortical Visual Impairment?  **YES!**

When your child is upset, does he instantly calm when you pick him up and whisper soothing words?  **YES!**

Does your child have a super power?  **YES!** His laugh! When he laughs and smiles you can't help but laugh and smile with him! He can heal all the heartache that's inside you with his smile!







What are you **PROUD** of?

What do you **HOPE** for?

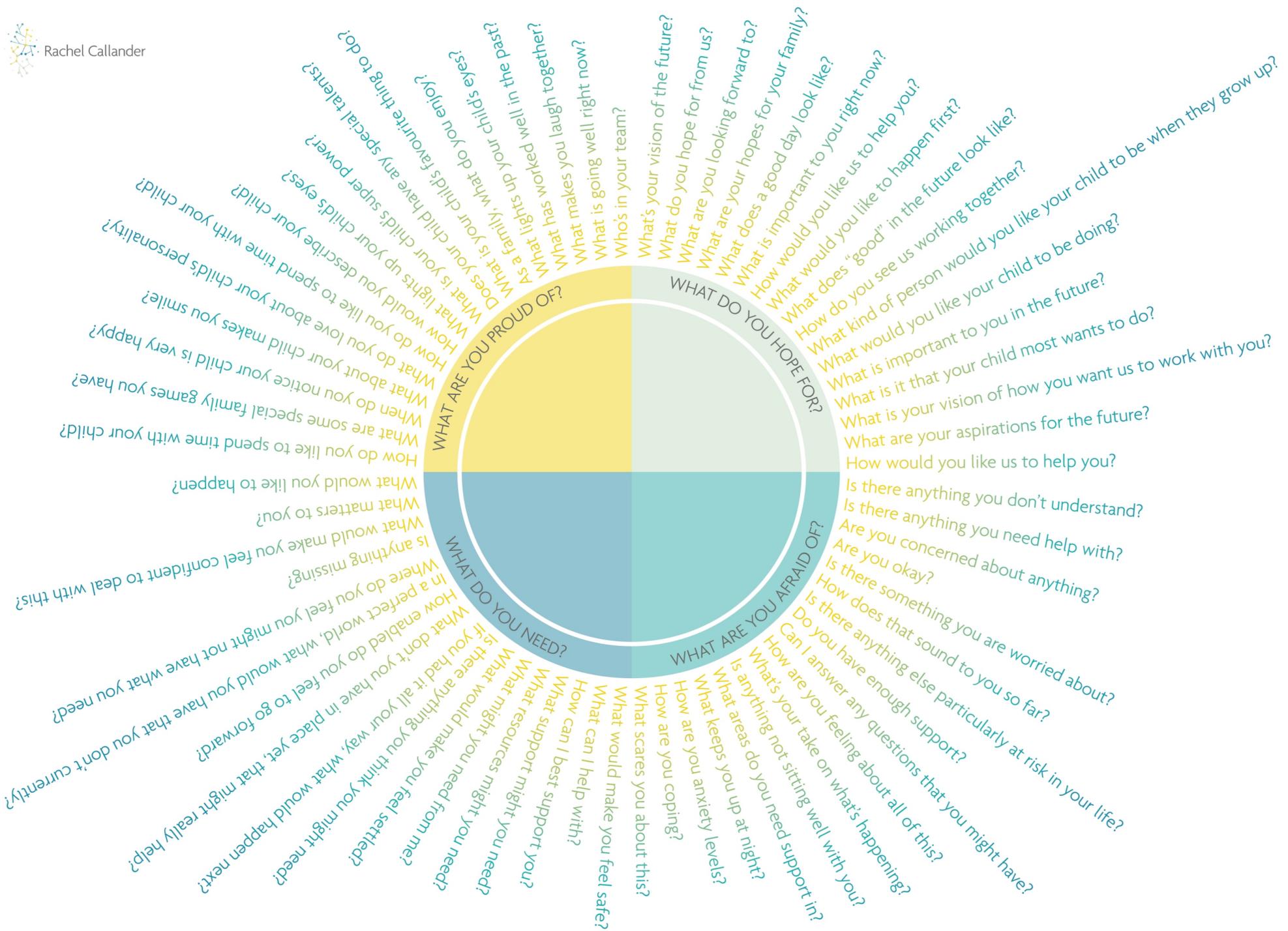
What are you **AFRAID** of?

What do you **NEED**?

Think of as many different ways of asking these four questions, to give you a range of options that spark curiosity, connection, care and meaningful support. Especially helpful for healthcare professionals working with families.

Examples of the kinds of questions you could ask are on the following page.





“One of the most meaningful and brilliant books I have ever read.”

—Professor Bruce Robinson, The Fathering Project



SUPER  
POWER  
BABY  
PROJECT

RACHEL CALLANDER

A powerful reminder that everyone’s differences should be embraced and their super powers celebrated.

Prof. Jonathan Carapetis AM, Executive Director, Telethon Kids Institute

SUPER POWER

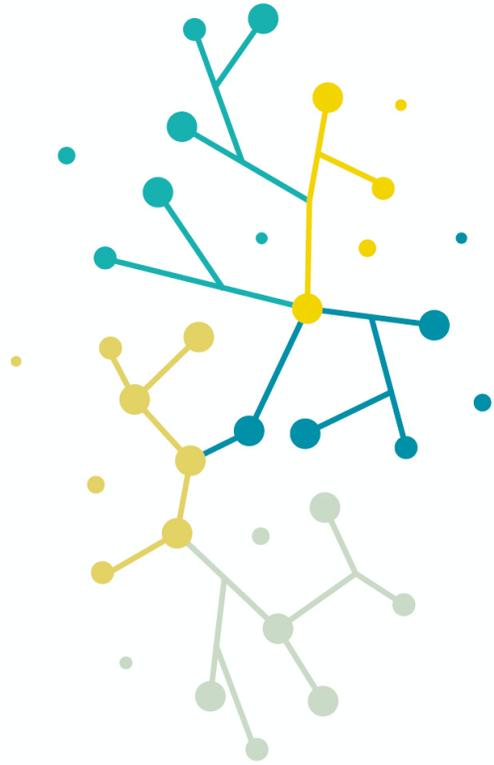


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