

Building Your Child's Language Skills

Things to Think About

Children start to build language skills during the first years of life.

How Can You Help?

You develop language skill with practice. You should let your child hear the language as much as possible

Begin by:

Repeating sounds your baby makes. As your child begins to say a few words, respond and build upon what is said.

Help your child with Listening:

- Play listening games like Simon Says.
- Tell stories
- Sing to and with – your child, make up Songs.

Help with Speaking:

- Interact and talk with your child, respond to what your child is saying and add more words and ideas.
- Play word games (naming things, rhyming)
- Pretend with your child. Use dress up, role play, and puppets.

Help with Reading:

- Daily read or look at a book with your child.
- Show your child that words are everywhere. point out signs, cereal boxes, and magazines.
- Visit the library for books, tapes, and CDs.