

Let's Get Talking: Language Development

Birth to 6 Months

Have conversations with your baby! Babble back, repeat sounds, and use different pitches when speaking to your baby. Your voice is comforting to them and helps them further connect to you through talk.

6 Months to 12 Months

When your baby “asks” for something by vocalizing or pointing, respond by naming the object and encourage him to communicate again. This develops a conversation between the two of you. This “serve & return” will be more beneficial each time you interact.

12 Months to 18 Months

Play the “What’s that?” game by pointing to toys, body parts, objects, or pictures and asking your toddler to name them. If your toddler doesn’t respond, name it for him and encourage them to imitate your words.

Play hide and seek in plain sight! Put your child’s favorite toys in a laundry basket slightly out of reach of your toddler or in a clear container with a tight lid. Wait for your toddler to request the objects, giving her a reason to communicate. Respond to her requests with naming and having her repeat the names of the hidden objects.

