

Recommendations to Build Language at Home

Talk to your child! Your child needs lots of pleasant language experiences. Include your child in family conversations (e.g., Meal time, TV Time, etc.). Encourage your child to play with other children the same age.

Be a good listening ear for your child. Be interested and willing to hear what your child wants to say.



Make language and talking fun! Play games, read stories, and spend time with your child. During this time, get down to your child's eye level. Sit or lay on the floor. Have fun! Be interested. Laugh and smile!

Name things as you travel, cook, dress, and prepare meals!

Describe things! Talk about the location of objects (e.g., "The crayon is **IN** the box"); the colour of objects (e.g., "Your **RED** shirt"; "My **BLUE** jeans", etc.); the size of objects (e.g., The **BIGGEST** cookie), and how actions are done (e.g., I'm walking **SLOWLY**, etc.).

Ask questions that encourage answers other than 'yes' or 'no' – for example: Instead of asking, "Do you want juice to drink?", ask "What would you like to drink?"

Model Good, Clear Speech - Use a slower rate of speech, shorter remarks, simple sentences, and repetition. Exaggerate important words with voice, and use gestures when you speak.

