

9 TIPS FOR PARENTS: ENCOURAGING LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT AT HOME

Here are some activities for parents to try:

- Speak to your child in a clear voice. Try not to use baby talk.
- Don't be afraid to use complex words with your children.
- Make time every day to have conversations with your child (talking and listening) .
- Encourage your child to use words to express ideas, observations, and feelings (and not rely on gestures).
- Use a broad range of words and expressions to enrich and expand your child's vocabulary (children understand more words than they use).
- Ask questions to give your child the chance to make and communicate their own choices.
- Sing and repeat nursery rhymes and chants with your child.
- When your child talks to you, model good listening by making eye contact and pausing to listen.
- Read and tell stories with curious characters and fun plots. Talk about the stories, talk about the pictures. Explore books together by asking questions about the plots.

