



EARLY LANGUAGE STIMULATION Parent/ Caregiver Suggestions

Attached you will find handouts with suggestions and activities that may be helpful to use when interacting with your child. These handouts are designed to focus on the development of your child's speech and language.

Things to remember:

- ☺ **GET ON THE FLOOR:** Play with your child and don't be afraid to get down on the floor and crawl around. Children learn through play so it is important that you get on the floor and play with him/her.
- ☺ **PLAY WITH THINGS YOUR CHILD IS INTERESTED IN:** Even though you have played with the same thing over and over, if your child likes to play with it you need to play too. The repeated play can provide new learning every time. Like all of us, children are going to want to talk about things they are interested in so...KEEP PLAYING OVER AND OVER AGAIN!
- ☺ **BE ANIMATED:** Use facial expressions and body movements to show that you are excited! The sillier you are the better your child will like it and the more he/she will pay attention to things you say and do.
- ☺ **KEEP IT SIMPLE:** Talk with your child using simple words and sentences. Keep in mind that it will be easier to understand and repeat words and sentences that are shorter in length. Try to stay one step above your child's level. For example, if your child is using one word at a time, you talk in 2-3 word sentences.
- ☺ **BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS:** Look through the book, talk about the pictures, point to pictures, turn the pages. Don't worry about reading the entire book cover to cover. Look at what you child is interested in and talk about it.