



Promoting Language in the Home

By : Teresa Williams, M.Ed.

Donahoe Pedd Teacher

www.mypreschoolcorner.com

Communication and Language



Crawlers and Walkers: 4-8 Months



- Smiles at the sound of your voice.
- Mimics some sounds
- Responds to own name
- Babbles
- Plays Peek-a-boo



Toddlers: Ages 12 Months - 2 Years

- Sings simple songs
- Vocabulary increases from 10-20 words (12-18 months) to up to 50 or more at age 2 years

- Puts short words together (“no-no”) to saying a simple sentence (“more cookie”)
- Names familiar toys, people and objects
- Begins to use pretend play: (example: “va-room sound” for playing with cars).
- Can be given a chore such as pick up toys.



Preschoolers: Age 3 - 4 Years

- Likes to have the same story read over and over
- Verbalizes wants “want water,” “happy meal”
- Uses 4-6 words together
- Names familiar toys, people and objects



Preschoolers: Age 3 - 4 Years

- Points to named objects in pictures
- Names articles of clothing and furniture

- Names colors
- Uses position words correctly (over, under, in)
- Likes to color and pretend to write or draw



If Language Does Not Develop Properly?

- The child probably has developmental delays

- Child may be on the autism spectrum
- Child may have a hearing loss

What should you do?

- Seek help for your child
 - through speech and language therapy or preschool school services.

What Can Parents Do to Encourage Language ?

➤ **TALK!**

➤ **TALK!**

➤ **TALK!**



Language Ideas!

1. Descriptive Speech
2. Child Directive Speech
3. Parent –Child Play
4. Using Home Routine Activities
 1. (Getting dressed, potty time, meals, play, bath, bedtime, running errands , car or travel time.)
5. Family Time
6. Other Activities



Children on the Autism Spectrum

- Establish attention
- Support your communication visually
- Guide or prompt the child to respond
- Get on the child's level



Children on the Autism Spectrum

- Use gestures and body language
- Speak slowly and clearly
- Limit verbalizations to one or two word phrases.



Picture Exchange Communication System or PECS

- **Level 1:** objects for making choices (crackers or juice)
- **Level 2 :** Use pictures for choices: offer pictures and give the child what they choose.
 - if the child does not choose : use hand over hand for item child probably wants (cracker not shoe)
- **Level 3 :** Beginning sentences : I want – and child chooses picture of what he/she wants to do

Websites to visit!

- <http://www.babies-and-sign-language.com/baby-signing-activities.html>
- <http://www.pbs.org/parents/readinglanguage/preschooler/main.html>
- <http://www.babybumblebee.com/company/teaching.cfm>
- <http://www.dotolearn.com/>
- <http://www.speakingofspeech.com/>
- <http://www.positivelyautism.com/>