

Start Well Early Years Communication and Language Development Tips of the Month for Parents – July 2024

Children enjoy listening to songs and stories over and over again

Parents with babies

- I listen when you sing songs and rhymes, as you tickle my tummy or play with my fingers and toes.
- I move my head or body to find sounds when I hear them.

Parents with toddlers

- When you sing rhymes, I join in with sounds that different characters and things make.
- Sometimes when I'm playing with toys or sharing a story with you, I will talk to you about the things that the toys remind me of.

Parents with young children

- I can use simple sentences with three to four words to talk about what I am doing, or what is happening.
- I use objects and gestures to help me explain what I mean when I am talking.

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Activities to try at home

Parents with babies

- Share the story 'Dear Zoo'. Make some finger puppets and make the sounds of the animals. Mimic your baby's sounds back to them. Watch their facial expressions and tune into them.

Parents with toddlers

- Have a trip to your local library. Find the book 'Dear Zoo' and talk to me about the sounds that animals make, I like it when I can join in with you.

Parents with young children

- Get dressed together. Help me to be independent and show me the order we put our clothes on. Use words like first, next, and last to support sequencing language.

Want to find out more about your child's learning and development in the early years?

Download:

[What to expect in the Early Years Foundation Stage: a guide for parents](#)



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