

### YOUR CHILD IS GROWING IN WAYS





#### HEARING & UNDERSTANDING

- Understands opposite words, such as go-stop, big-little, and up-down.
- Follows 2-part directions, such as "Get the spoon and put it on the table."
- Understands new words quickly.

#### DESCRIBE! ASK! ENCOURAGE!

How can you help your child learn?

#### TALKING

- Has a word for familiar people, places, things, and actions.
- Talks about things that are not in the room.
- Talks during pretend play, such as saying beep-beep when moving cars.
- Uses k, g, f, t, d, and n in words.
- Uses words like *in*, *on*, and *under*.
- Asks why?
- Puts 3 words together to talk about and ask for things.

**Describe** objects with different sizes, colors, and textures. Use comparison words such as *hard* and *soft*.

**Ask** your child to name and point to different body parts.

**Encourage** your child to answer questions and ask *who*, *what*, *when*, and *where* questions.

TALKING IS TEACHING



**Ask your child to imitate sounds he hears.** Clap your hands, whistle, hum, and snap your fingers. See if he can make the same sounds.

**Respond to your child** even when she doesn't say all sounds correctly. Use the correct sounds in your own speech. Ask your child to repeat words when you don't understand her.

Get help if you have concerns about your child's hearing or talking. Visit IdentifytheSigns.org for more information.

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#### That's why... reading aloud is so important!

**Routines feel right!** Family routines help a child feel safe, loved, and ready for school and life.

**Hello, chatterbox.** Your child's language skills are exploding. She may learn 2-4 new words a day.

**Curiouser and curiouser.** Your child is exploring and learning about the world. A baby is born with about 100 billion neurons; by age 3, there will be about 1,000 trillion connections.

**Nurture a reader.** Reading aloud every day builds key reading skills and encourages a love of reading.

**That's why...** It's a great idea to find a special time to read to your child every day, whether during meals, at bath time, or at bedtime.

**That's why...** Books are great vocabulary builders! Point to pictures and describe them. Ask questions about the story — and encourage your child do the same. Teach your child that words are everywhere! Read signs, menus, and even the words on your technology devices.

**That's why...** It's important to keep books where your child can reach them. Your child may want you to read the same book over and over again. Be willing and patient!

**That's why...** Your loving example is the best way to encourage reading and learning. You are creating great memories when you read together. You are also demonstrating how books work — that you turn pages one at a time, that books have a front and back, and that letters form sounds and words.

# DID YOU KNOW ...

## When you read aloud you're giving your child:

- More vocabulary
- An understanding of how books and reading work
- Knowledge about the world and people
- Food for the imagination
- Memories of your special time together
- A love of reading and learning that will last a lifetime



American Speech-Language-Hearing Association

YEAR

2 to 3

**Read Aloud 15 MINUTES** and the **American Speech-Language-Hearing Association** are proud to collaborate on this initiative to reach parents of young children.

