

GENERAL TIPS TO SUPPORT SPEECH AND LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT



- ✦ Talk about what you are doing, what your child is doing, and what your child sees. Use longer sentences as your child grows older.
- ✦ Communicate with your child in the language that you are most comfortable using.
- ✦ Use a variety of words when speaking. This builds vocabulary.
- ✦ Listen and respond to your child by looking at them with interest in what they want to say.
- ✦ When asking your child a question, pause and be comfortable with “wait time” before expecting your child to answer.
- ✦ Give simple and clear directions for your child to follow.
- ✦ Have your child’s hearing tested if you find yourself repeating a lot or using a loud voice or if your child is not producing sounds for their age.
- ✦ Read books your child enjoys. Children build vocabulary the more they hear words. Make this time fun and engaging by using silly sounds or a funny voice.
- ✦ Tell oral stories to your child as much as you can. Family stories are a great way to connect and enrich language! This can be done at any time ie: dinner table, bedtime, while walking together.
- ✦ Do not interrupt your child to correct their speech sounds. It’s okay if your child makes some mistakes with sounds. Say the sounds correctly when you talk.
- ✦ Ask questions that require more than a yes or no answer and ask one question at a time giving the child time to think and respond.
- ✦ Set limits for screen time. Replace hours of screen time with talking, indoor play, cooking together, coloring, outside play, or reading together.



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SPECIALIZING IN:

Speech Sound Disorders

Late Talkers

Early Intervention

Social Skills/Play Skills

Receptive/Expressive Language

Neurodiversity ie: Autism Spectrum

You know your child best!

Do not wait to get help if you are concerned. Early Intervention is important. Let’s connect if you would like a FREE 15 minute consultation.



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Reference:

ASHA. “Communication Milestones: Age Ranges.” American Speech-Language-Hearing Association / ASHA, 2024, <https://www.asha.org/public/developmental-milestones/vommunication-milestones/>.