

You can help your child talk clearer by . . .



being a good speech model for your child. Don't use baby talk.

pronouncing words clearly, slowly and correctly for your child to hear and imitate.



trying to look at your child when you both are talking.

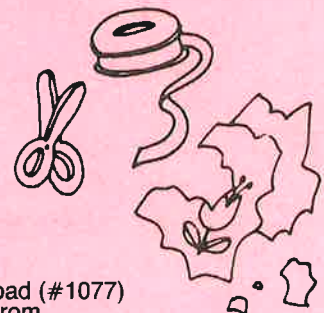
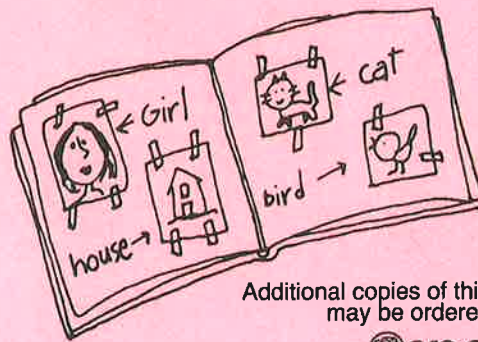


letting the child watch your face, lips and tongue as you form sounds and words prolonging the speech sound the child has difficulty saying, such as "where is your sssock?"

repeating new words and sounds over and over. Use them often in your conversation with the child.

making a scrapbook with the child. Cut out and paste pictures of objects the child learns to say or recognize.

praising the child when sounds are correct, especially if the sounds were previously difficult for the child.



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## If You Think Your Child Has A Speech Problem



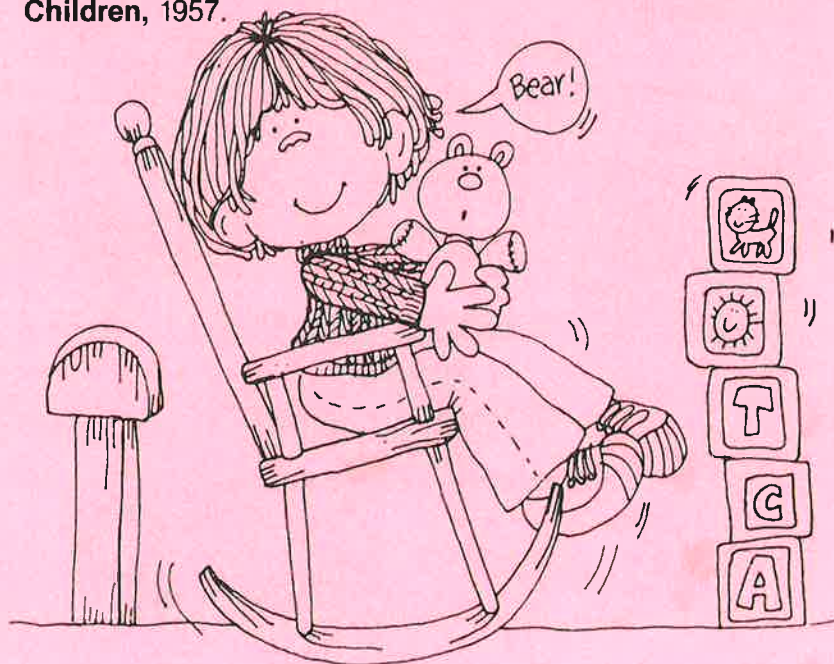
Your child's speech sounds will develop as he grows. A baby makes early vocalizations around two or three months, babbles around 6 months and uses jargon from about 18 months to 30 months. The majority of sounds a 3-year-old makes should be normal. Although he may not use all sounds correctly, he should be intelligible to strangers.

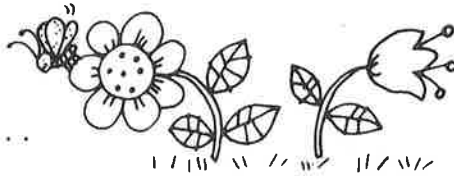
### Summary Of Speech Sound Development



Age	Consonants
3	m, n, ng, p, f, h, w
3½	y (as in <b>y</b> es)
4	k, b, d, g, r
4½	s, sh (as in <b>sh</b> oe), ch (as in <b>ch</b> air)
6	t, v, l, th (as in <b>th</b> in)
7	z, zh (measure), th (father), j (jump)

Norms from Mildred Templin, **Certain Language Skills in Children**, 1957.





## How to choose a good book ...



Stories should be appropriate for the child's age level. Many school or public libraries offer lists of books by age range and subject matter.

Pictures should be clear with not too many objects on a page.

The pictures should tell a story that makes sense without the printed words.



Stories should be for pleasure and fun, but include educational books, too. Some books may teach new speech sounds, concepts (such as farm animals, things we wear, colors) or morals (how to share, make friends, etc.).

Books should help add new words to the child's vocabulary.

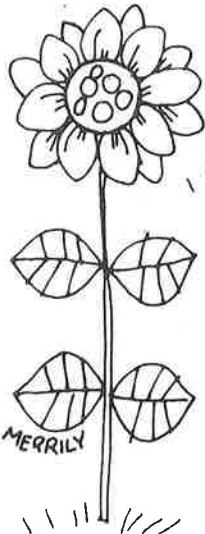


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## Reading To Your Child



How to read a book to your child . . .

Show delight and enthusiasm as you read. Never turn reading into a chore.

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9			



Try to read to your child each day.

Find a time when you and the child are relaxed and interested in reading, such as at bedtime or after a nap.

Let your child choose the books and pages to read.



Point to the pictures as you talk about them.

Let the child help hold the book and turn the pages.

Tell a familiar story, but leave out words or parts of sentences for your child to fill in.

Let your child describe the pictures and tell the story to you.



Write down your child's homemade story and read it to him.

*and then the little bug went do*



Ask the child to make up a story, or to finish one you have started.

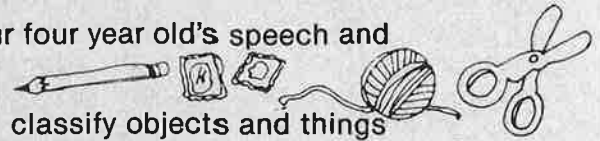


If your child periodically does not show an interest in reading, continue to read to the child as he plays quietly. Eventually the child will again be eager to participate in reading.





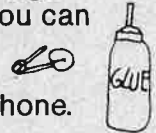
You can stimulate your four year old's speech and language by . . .



helping your child classify objects and things like talking about what kinds of things you can ride in.



teaching your child correct use of a telephone.

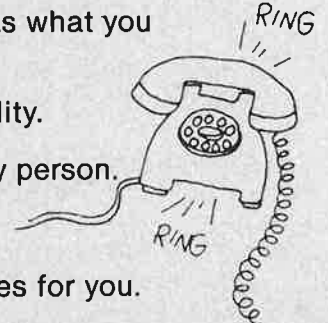


helping you plan activities such as what you will make for Christmas dinner.



giving your child more responsibility.

talking with him as you would any person.



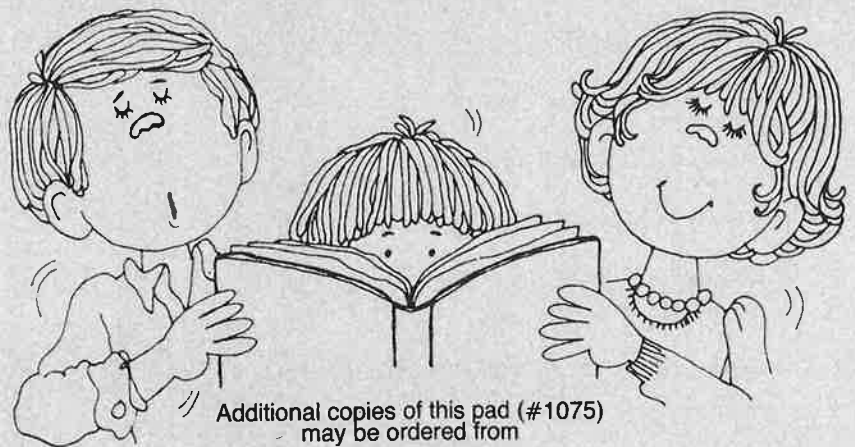
reading longer stories to him.



letting him tell and make up stories for you.

continuing to show your pleasure at his development in speech, language and thought.

not expecting absolute perfection in the way he pronounces words.



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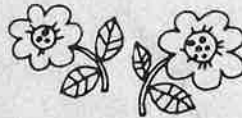


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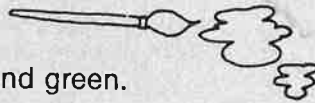
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## Speech and Language Of The Four Year Old



At age four, your child . . .



points to colors red, blue, yellow and green.



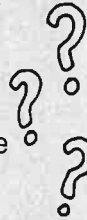
identifies crosses, triangles, circles and squares.

follows commands even though objects not present.



understands "early in the morning," "next month,"  
"next year," "noontime."

can speak of imaginary conditions such as "suppose  
that" or "I hope."



asks **many** questions although more interested in  
how answers fit his/her own thoughts rather than  
just the explanation.

has a sentence length of 4-5 words.

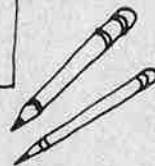
asks "who?" and "why?"

begins to use complex sentences.

uses contractions such as "it's a" or "there's a."

uses past tense correctly.

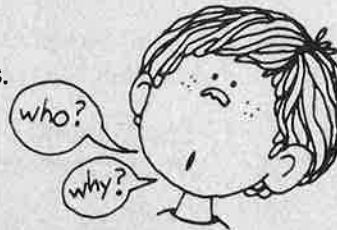
copies a line and a circle.



has a vocabulary of nearly 1500 words.

uses the following sounds correctly: m, n, ng, p, f, h,  
w, y, k, b, d, g, r.

stays with one activity 11-12 minutes.



merrily johnson





You can stimulate your 2½ year old child's speech and language by . . .

letting your child tell you answers to simple questions  
reading books every day, perhaps as part of the bedtime ritual



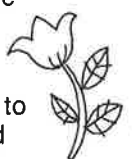
listening attentively as your child talks to you  
talking to the child a little beyond his or her level of understanding

describing what you are doing, planning, thinking  
exposing the child to many new experiences and talking about them before, during, and after the event

having the child deliver a simple message for you ("Mommy needs you, Daddy")

carrying on conversations with the child, preferably when the two of you have some quiet time together

asking questions to stimulate additional thought and language  
showing the child you understand what he or she says by answering, smiling, and nodding your head



prolonging some sounds in words the child may find difficult to say, such as "Put on your ssssock(sock)." Have the child watch your face as you say the sound correctly.

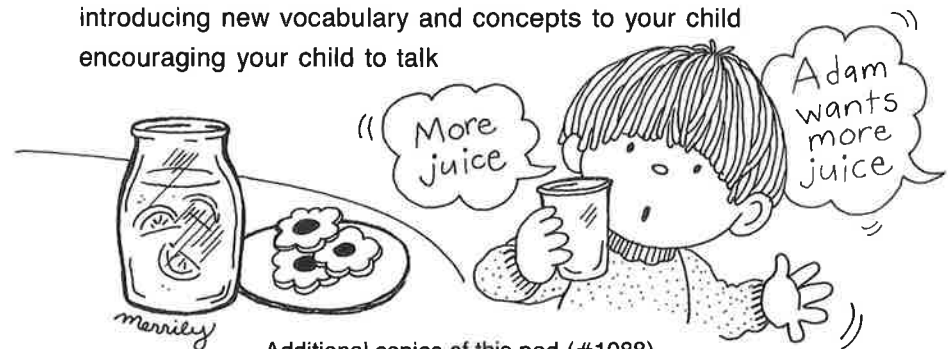


expanding what the child says. If he or she says, "More juice," you say, "Adam wants more juice."



playing and singing songs and records

introducing new vocabulary and concepts to your child  
encouraging your child to talk



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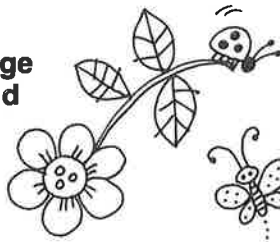


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## Speech and Language Of The 2½ Year Old



At age 2½, your child . . .

has a 450 word vocabulary

gives first name

uses past tense and plurals and combines nouns and verbs

understands simple time concepts: "last night," "tomorrow"

refers to self as "me" rather than by name

tries to get adult attention: "watch me"

likes to hear same story repeated

uses "no" or "not" in speech and may say "no"  
when means "yes"

builds tower of 8 blocks

talks to other children as well as adults

begins to control behavior verbally rather than just physically

answers "where" questions

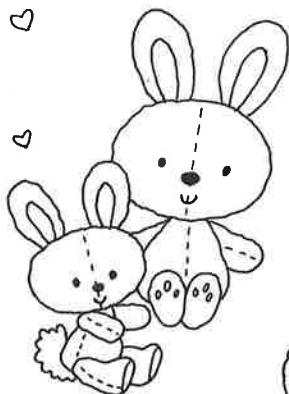
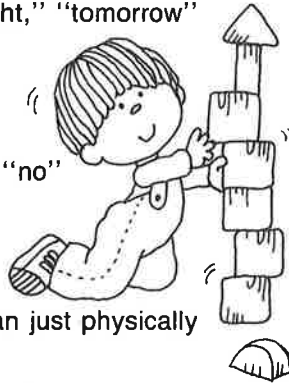
can name common pictures and things he or she comes in  
contact with regularly

uses short sentences to announce what he or she has done or  
will do like, "Me do it," or "Me want to jump"

matches 3-4 colors

knows big and little

holds up fingers to tell age





You can stimulate your two year old's speech and language by . . .

reading books with simple colorful pictures.

being a good speech model.

repeating new words over and over.

helping your child listen and follow instructions by playing games: "pick up the ball," "touch Daddy's nose."

talking about what **you** are doing.

playing records with your child.

listening to your child when he or she is talking, never saying, "I don't understand you."

praising the child for telling you some of the things he or she is doing and for the child's efforts at saying things.

taking the child on excursion trips and talking about what you see.

carrying on a conversation with him.

asking questions to stimulate additional thought and language.



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## Speech and Language Of The Two Year Old



At age two, your child . . .

listens for the meaning of words, not just sounds.

understands simple questions and commands.

identifies body parts



uses mainly names of things, actions, persons  
and situations in his or her language.

carries on "conversation" with self and dolls.

asks "what's this?", "what's that?" and "where's my?"

sentence length is composed of 2-3 words.

refers to self by name.

names pictures.

uses 2-word negative phrases such as "not go,"  
"not right," "no want."

forms some plurals by adding "s"; book, books.

has around 300 words in speaking vocabulary.

builds an 8-block tower.

asks for drink, toilet, food.

listens to stories with pictures.

stays with one activity 6-7 minutes.



merrily johnson



You can stimulate your 18 month old child's speech by . . .

reading books to your child frequently

talking simply, clearly, and slowly to your child



providing experiences to stimulate speech and language development in your child: take walks, go shopping, plant a garden, have a picnic, clean the house or yard together



talking about new situations before you go, while you're there, and again when you are home



looking at your child when he or she talks to you

imitating and identifying sounds with your child, such as dogs barking, birds singing, fire sirens, squeaky doors, running water

describing what your child is doing, feeling, hearing

making speaking and listening experiences pleasant, worthwhile, and fun for your child

letting the child listen to children's records or tapes

praising the child's efforts to communicate



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## Speech and Language Of The Eighteen Month Old

At age eighteen months, your child . . .

uses 10 to 20 words, including names

hears well and discriminates among many sounds

recognizes pictures of familiar persons and objects

combines two words such as "all gone," "Daddy  
bye-bye"

uses words to make wants known such as "more," "up"

imitates words and sounds more precisely

points and gestures to call attention to an event or to  
show wants

points to his or her toes, eyes, and nose

brings familiar object from another room when asked

turns pages of a book a few at a time

follows simple commands

waves "bye-bye"

imitates housework: wiping up spills, setting table

makes a tower of 3 to 4 cubes

knows and says the names of 5 things

hums and may sing simple tunes



You can stimulate your one year old child's speech and language by . . .

reading colorful books to your baby.

encouraging imitation games such as peek-a-boo.

reciting nursery rhymes.

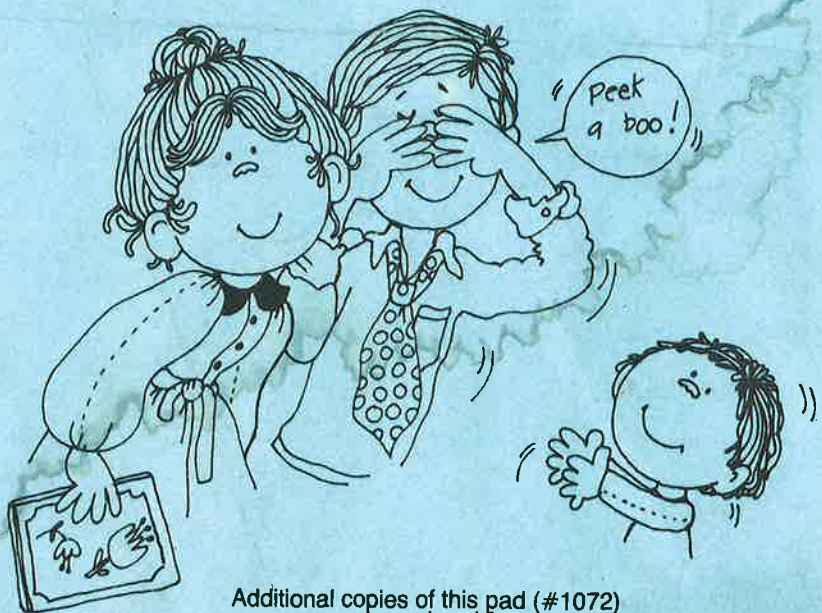
using short words with your baby.

imitating your baby's movements and vocalizations.

rewarding and encouraging early efforts at producing new words.

not pressuring the baby to perform for you.

talking to your baby about everything you're doing when you're with him.



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# Speech and Language Of The One Year Old

At age one, your child...

recognizes his or her name.

understands "no".

understands simple instructions.

imitates familiar words.

waves good-bye and plays pat-a-cake.

uses "mama" and "dada" and several other words, usually nouns.

likes to make the "sounds" of familiar animals and things.

gives a toy on request.

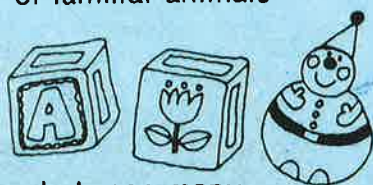
laughs a great deal.

hears well and discriminates between many sounds.

shows a great deal of affection - makes noises and pats parents affectionately.

places a cube in a cup on command.

scribbles imitatively with a crayon.





From nine to twelve months your child should . . .

- ♥ Turn or look when name is called
- Listen to people talking
- Respond to simple commands like "give me," "come here"
- ♥ Understand "bye-bye"

From twelve to eighteen months your child should . . .

- Point to objects or familiar people by name
- Imitate simple sounds or words
- Follow simple spoken directions
- Say 2-3 words by age one and 8-10 words by 18 months



From 1½ years to age five your child should . . .

- ♥ Hear you call from another room
- Hear and understand conversation easily
- Hear TV or music at same loudness level as everyone else
- Hear quiet speech
- Have normal voice qualities
- Have normal verbal language development (vocabulary, speech sounds, sentence structure)
- Show social rapport and emotional development appropriate for his or her age



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## If You Think Your Child Has a Hearing Loss

It is important that parents be aware of their child's hearing from the moment their child is born. A child's hearing can be affected by many things. Some children run a high risk of hearing loss due to heredity or perinatal complications including rubella, syphilis, low birthweight, meningitis, and asphyxia. Toddlers and preschool age children may acquire a temporary or permanent hearing loss with repeated middle ear infections. Older children may acquire a hearing loss with repeated exposure to loud noise such as loud music.

If you suspect your child has difficulty hearing, seek professional help immediately. Early attention to your child's hearing will help your child reach his or her full potential.

Here are a few guidelines to help you determine if your child's hearing is normal.

From birth to three months the child should . . .

- Startle or cry at loud noises
- Stop moving and seem to listen to speech or sounds
- Awaken at a loud sound

From three to six months your child should . . .

- Look toward a sound or speaker
- Smile when spoken to
- Recognize mother's voice
- Enjoy rattles and other toys that make sounds

From six to nine months your child should . . .

- Respond to his or her name
- Babble and make lots of different sounds
- Respond to "no"

