



Under 12 Months

Tips and Strategies

When talking...

- Observe what your baby is looking at, their facial expressions and their body movements
- Pause often so your baby gets a chance to “talk”
- Involve your baby in what you’re doing - turn everyday activities into language learning moments
- Imitate your baby’s sounds - play a game of copy-cat babble!
- Respond as if they are using real words
- Talk about what your baby is playing with or looking at
- Talk slowly and use lots of expression in your voice

When reading...

- Choose board books with one picture per page or different textures to feel
- Allow your baby to play with the book, chew on it or bang with it
- Keep it simple- make up words to go with the pictures. Don’t feel like you have to read the book!
- Keep it short - look at books often and watch for signs that your baby is ready to move on

When singing...

- Sing songs with actions
- Turn off the recorded music, so you can slow down
- Pause to give your baby a chance to make a sound or use an action

When playing...

- Be face-to-face and at their level
- Take turns with actions

