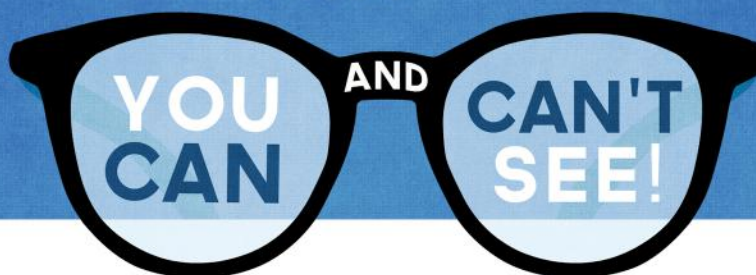


# YOUR CHILD IS GROWING IN WAYS



## HEARING & UNDERSTANDING

- Responds when you call from another room.
- Understands words for some colors, such as *red, blue, and green*.
- Understands words for some shapes, such as *circle and square*.
- Understands words for family, such as *brother, grandmother, and aunt*.



## TALKING

- Answers simple *who, what, and where* questions.
- Says rhyming words, such as *hat-cat and silly-billy*.
- Uses pronouns, such as *I, you, me, we, and they*.
- Uses some plural words, such as *toys, birds, and buses*.
- Asks *when* and *how* questions.
- Puts 4 words together. May make some mistakes, such as "I goed to school."
- Talks about what happened during the day. Uses about 4 sentences at a time.

## PLAY! TALK! ENCOURAGE!

How can you help your child learn?

**Play** games that help your child follow directions, such as "Simon Says." Encourage pretend play. Pretend to talk on a toy phone or have a picnic. Build on the conversation.

**Talk** about the different times of day and the seasons. Ask questions, such as "What do we do in the summer?" Talk about the location of objects. Use words like *under, on, and behind*.

**Encourage** your child to greet other children at the park and invite friends to play. This helps your child learn to use language in different places and with different people.

TALKING IS  
TEACHING



LISTENING IS  
LEARNING

**Sharpen your child's ability to listen and make sounds.** Ask her to say *zzzz* like a bee, *ssss* like a snake, and *grrrr* like a tiger.

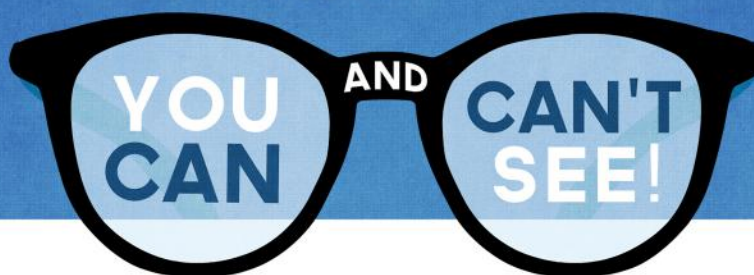
**Help your child listen to different ways we talk.** Talk in a soft and loud voice.

**Ask your child to repeat a word or sentence that is unclear.** If the word is still not clear, ask, "Did you mean \_\_\_?" and say the word with the correct sound.

Get help if you have concerns about your child's hearing or talking.

Visit [IdentifytheSigns.org](http://IdentifytheSigns.org) for more information.

# YOUR CHILD IS GROWING IN WAYS



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

**A, B, C easy as 1, 2, 3.** Your child may be starting to recognize letters and numbers.



**Finding focus.** Your child may now sit still longer for stories and have the ability to turn pages one at a time.

**Rhyme time!** Rhyming is a fun way to build language skills.

**Yay! It's story time!** Your local library has so much to offer — from a variety of terrific picture books, to story times, and other children's programs.

**That's why...** Books about counting and the alphabet are good choices. While reading, point to the letters, move your finger under words, and talk about pictures and words that begin with the same sound. Display the alphabet where your child can see and interact with the letters — and remember to sing the alphabet song together!

**That's why...** It's great to encourage your child to be actively involved in your read aloud sessions. Have your child choose the book, hold it, and turn its pages. Let him take the lead in telling a familiar story or talking about the pictures.

**That's why...** You should read nursery rhymes or books with rhyming words and repeated phrases. Pause the story to give your child a chance to finish a familiar line.

**That's why...** You should check out your local library! Get a library card if you don't have one. Ask your child to pick out a few books. She may even find a new favorite!

## 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



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