TALK, READ, AND SING TOGETHER EVERY DAY! IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO HELP YOUR CHILD LEARN.

Learn more about your baby by watching for developmental milestones. Smiling, cooing, and babbling are just a few. Your baby will show you many more milestones in how he plays, learns, speaks, acts, and moves! Look for your child's milestones regularly and share his progress with the doctor at every well-child visit.

BIRTH TO 2 MONTHS

- Coos, makes gurgling sounds
- Turns head toward sounds

TIP: Respond to your baby's first smiles, gurgles, and coos — she's talking to you and wants you to talk, too!

4 MONTHS

- Begins to babble
- Babbles with expression and copies sounds he hears

TIP: Hold and talk to your baby; smile and be cheerful while you do.

6 MONTHS

- Responds to sounds by making sounds
- Responds to own name
- Begins to say consonant sounds (jabbering with "m," "b")

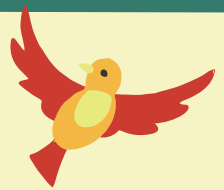
TIP: Read books to your baby every day. Praise him when he babbles and "reads" too.

9 MONTHS

- Understands "no"
- Makes a lot of different sounds like "mamamama" and "babababa"

12 MONTHS

- Uses simple gestures, like shaking head "no" or waving "bye-bye"
- Tries to say words you say



TIP: When you read with your child, have her turn the pages. Take turns labeling pictures with your child.

18 MONTHS

- Says several single words
- Points to show someone what he wants

TIP: Describe what your baby is looking at; for example, "red, round ball."

2 YEARS

- Points to things or pictures when named
- Says sentences with 2 to 4 words
- Follows simple instructions

3 YEARS

- Follows instructions with 2 or 3 steps
- Talks well enough for strangers to understand most of the time
- Carries on a conversation using 2 to 3 sentences

4 YEARS

- Tells stories
- Can say first and last name
- Knows some basic rules of grammar, such as correctly using "he" or "she"

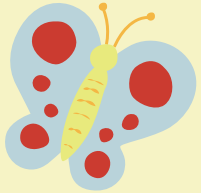
5 YEARS

- Speaks very clearly
- Says name and address
- Uses future tense; for example, "Grandma will be here."

YOU CAN HELP YOUR CHILD'S LANGUAGE SKILLS BY TALKING, READING, AND SINGING WITH HIM OR HER EVERY DAY. IT'S EASY TO DO AND CAN MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE IN HOW YOUR CHILD LEARNS AND GROWS!

IT'S NEVER TOO EARLY TO START TALKING, READING, AND SINGING WITH YOUR BABY.

TALKING BACK AND FORTH WITH YOUR BABY BY RESPONDING TO HER SMILES, COOS, AND BABBLING HELPS YOUR BABY LEARN LANGUAGE.



LEARNING LANGUAGE HELPS YOUR BABY LEARN LOTS OF OTHER IMPORTANT SKILLS.

Go to cdc.gov/ActEarly to find:

- Free milestone checklists to help you learn more about how your baby is developing
- Tips for How to Help Your Child and How to Talk with the Doctor if you ever become concerned about your baby's development
- A free children's book, Amazing Me: It's Busy Being 3!, for order or download
- More of the Too Small to Fail Talking is Teaching Materials

Remember, every child develops at his or her own pace, but if you are ever worried about your child's development, don't wait! Acting early can make a big difference. Remember, you know your child best. Talk with your child's doctor if you have concerns. Get tips to help you prepare at **cdc.gov/Concerned**.

TOO SMALL TO FAIL

TALK READ SING
TALKING IS TEACHING.ORG