



## DOES YOUR CHILD:

Child's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Seem to understand the words you often use?

☐ Often ☐ Sometimes ☐ Not Yet

Use words or point so that you pay attention to something? (e.g. names an object and looks at you or makes a noise and points) Names a few familiar items, people, or pets?

☐ Often ☐ Sometimes ☐ Not Yet

Points at pictures or notice things they like in pictures?

☐ Often ☐ Sometimes ☐ Not Yet

Clip and return to school.



Clip and Save.

### Talk about the things that interest your child

Notice the things that your child spends the most time with and seems excited by. Talking with your child about a variety of things is important, but pay special attention to those things your child is interested in. Use their interests to build vocabulary. For example, if your child is interested in cars, they may learn the words *wheel* or *horn*. If your child is interested in dogs, they may learn the words *tail* and *bark*. These interests can motivate your child and their interest in learning new words can spread to other topics.

### Encourage your child to communicate in any way that works for them

As young children learn to communicate, they may use shorter versions of words, sounds such as grunting or squealing, facial expressions, and gestures (e.g. pointing) to communicate. Respond to your child's attempts to communicate and help others understand your child. You can model complete words or phrases to help your child expand their communication skills.

### Continue to expose your child to books, pictures, songs, and signs

Language and literacy are everywhere! Point out pictures or words in fun ways to show them that words and pictures are fun and interesting. Share things important to your family and culture that involve language and literacy, such as books, pictures, and songs. Share and talk about family photos. Consider creating labels for photos with people's names so your child sees letters and words along with pictures. These experiences are the building blocks to reading.

