



Language
and
Literacy



DOES YOUR CHILD:

Child's Name _____

Respond when you ask him/her to do something? (e.g. pick up a toy and put it away)

☐

Often

☐

Sometimes

☐

Not Yet

Put two or more words together to communicate with you?

☐

Often

☐

Sometimes

☐

Not Yet

Recognize signs, symbols, or familiar books?

☐

Often

☐

Sometimes

☐

Not Yet

Recognize certain sounds?

☐

Often

☐

Sometimes

☐

Not Yet

Clip and return to school.

Clip and Save.



Ask your child questions

Encourage your child to talk by asking questions that start with what, why, where, and how. Talk about books you read, stories you share, and/or songs you sing. Ask your child questions about new things you see in your community or about things you do at home every day.

Introduce new words to your child

When your child hears new words, they increase their vocabulary. These new words have the most meaning when they are connected to real-life experiences. For example, you might use the word "bushy" to describe the tail of a squirrel you see in the park or use the word "rotate" or "spin" to describe the dryer at the laundromat. Share other examples of how these words can be used to help your child understand the meaning of the new words (e.g. "The clothes are spinning in the dryer. Can you spin?").

Point out words and symbols in your home and community

Pointing out words and symbols, talking about the meaning and how the words and symbols help us, shows your child the importance of written language. Point out the "Exit" sign and say, "That sign shows that it is the way out." Point out the sign for the local grocery store or a restaurant and remind your child of the name of the place and what you do there.



Connecticut Office
of Early Childhood