



Language and Literacy at Home

Toddlers (15 mos. - 3 yrs.)

How Children Learn

Toddlers are learning how to master language in order to support their growing independence. They are exploring how powerful, useful, and fun language can be.

Activities & Experiences

Write down what your child says (about their own artwork, structure, etc.) on a separate piece of paper and read it back to them.

Set up an area with books, dolls, and stuffed animals for your child to “read” to.

Read aloud simple, repetitive stories that connect to your child’s daily life.

Play clapping games and sing rhyming songs with your child’s name (ex. say child’s name and clap the syllables).

Put a range of objects in a “feely box” or bag and have your child guess what’s inside based on how the objects feel. Introduce new vocabulary words that describe the objects.

How can we support exploration and social-emotional learning?

- Ask simple, open-ended questions and provide choices when possible.
- Use silly humor and pretend play to engage your toddler in language.
- Recognize that repetition is a tool for toddlers’ learning – prepare to read the same book or play the same game over and over again!

Where are the people in the book going?

Do you want the blue truck or the red truck?

The duck says “woof woof”! Wait a minute... is that what a duck says?