

Start Well Early Years Communication and Language Development Tips of the Month for Parents – August 2022

Support your child's vocabulary by offering different creative activities, listening to music and signing songs together.

Parents with babies:

- Listening is an important skill when developing language. Your baby will love hearing repetitive songs and you will see them attempting to mimic the tune or song back to you.

Parents with toddlers:

- Toddlers love to make noise. Introduce an instrument or clap out words in rhythm with the music to help your child remember the words.

Parents with young children:

- Craft activities like card making, model building and pebble decorating, helps ignite your child's curiosity, which leads to improved attention. By supporting the activity, you can help your child to learn **describing word:** 'fluffy', 'sticky', 'wet' etc; **action words:** 'squashing', 'sticking', 'building' etc and **object words:** 'pebble', 'paint', 'glue', 'glitter' etc.



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Activities to try at home

Parents with babies:

- Sing simple songs to your child or make up songs about what you are doing. E.g., “washing the plate, washing the plate to make it nice and clean. Now I’m washing the cup, washing the cup to make it nice and clean!” They will love your singing voice!

Parents with toddlers:

- Let your child make their own shaker. Clean out an old drink bottle and let it dry. Fill it halfway with a mix of lentils, rice, coloured sand etc. Remember to secure the lid firmly. Encourage your child to shake to the rhythm of their favourite song.

Parents with young children:

- Make scrap people together and talk about the processes involved like cutting, sticking etc. Get some cardboard roll holders, coloured pens, card (used cereal boxes) and Sellotape. Now let your child get creative, happy building! [Building scrap people - BBC Tiny Happy People](#)

Want to find out more about your child’s learning and development in the early years?

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[What to expect in the Early Years Foundation Stage: a guide for parents](#)



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