

What You Should Be Doing:

- Birth to 3 months
- ✓ Whenever your baby makes sounds try to imitate them. Use a pleasant voice when talking to your baby.
 - ✓ Hold your baby close to you, often rocking, singing, talking quietly and ready.
 - ✓ Talk to your baby using his/her name while you work around the house, “Hello, Johnny.”
- 3 – 9 months
- ✓ Keep imitating your baby’s sounds, talk a lot with him/her
 - ✓ Hold your baby close to you, often singing, reading nursery rhymes, stories or talking.
 - ✓ Talk to your baby about his/her toys, and play games like “Peek-a-boo” or “Pat-a-cake”.
- 9 – 12 months
- ✓ Make simple speech sounds to see if your baby will imitate your (bah-bah, gah-gah).
 - ✓ Pay attention to see if your baby says “mama”, “dada”.
 - ✓ Talk with your baby about his/her toys and items in your house. Play singing games.
 - ✓ Point to pictures in their books and talk about them
- 12 – 18 months
- ✓ Show your baby his/her body parts, “Here’s baby’s nose, eye, ear”, etc.
 - ✓ Show simple picture books, helping to turn the pages, talk about the pictures.
 - ✓ Play: “Where’s daddy? (mommy?)” and point to daddy (mommy). Where’s the doggy? (or a toy)”, “What does the doggy say? Bow-wow.
- 18 –24 months:
- ✓ Read simple stories to your child and ask questions: “where’s the kitty?” and point out the picture.
 - ✓ Give instructions, “Put the doll on the chair.” “Put the ball in the box.”