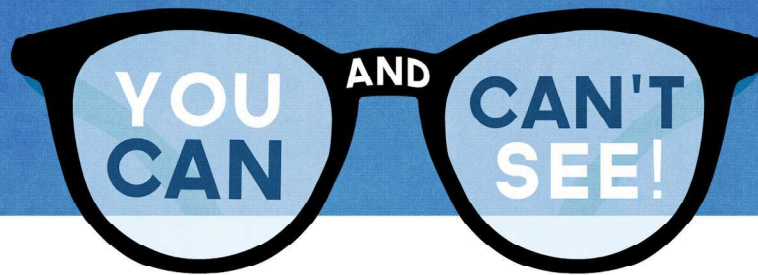




# YOUR CHILD IS GROWING IN WAYS



## HEARING & UNDERSTANDING

- Points to a few body parts when you ask.
- Follows 1-part directions, such as "Roll the ball" or "Kiss the baby."
- Understands simple questions, like "Who's that?" and "Where's your shoe?"
- Listens to stories, songs, and rhymes for a longer time.
- Points to the pictures in books when you name them.



## TALKING

- Uses many new words.
- Uses *p*, *b*, *m*, *h*, and *w* in words.
- Starts to name pictures in books.
- Asks *what*, *who*, and *where* questions, such as "What's that?" "Who's that?" and "Where's kitty?"
- Puts 2 words together, such as "More apple," "No bed," and "Mommy book."

## TALK! GESTURE! EXPLAIN!

How can you help your child learn?

**Talk** to your child using a lot of different words, including "big" words. Children enjoy new and unusual words.

**Gesture** as you speak. Name, describe, and point to objects and people. Ask your child to point and use words for these objects and people too.

**Explain** what you are doing and what your child is doing using longer sentences. This helps your child use one- and two-word expressions, such as "Uh-oh," "Read book," and "More juice."

TALKING IS  
TEACHING



LISTENING IS  
LEARNING

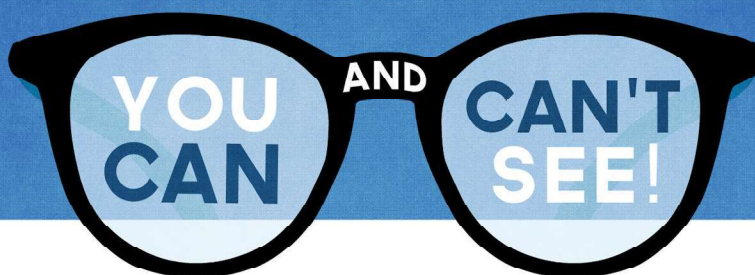
**Develop** your child's awareness of sounds. Talk about the sounds you hear and help your child look in the direction of sounds. Talk about animals and their sounds.

**Tell** your child stories, sing songs, say nursery rhymes, and play word and gesture games like pat-a-cake.

Get help if you have concerns about your child's hearing or talking.

Visit [IdentifytheSigns.org](http://IdentifytheSigns.org) for more information.

# YOUR CHILD IS GROWING IN WAYS



## That's why... reading aloud is so important!

**I do! I do!** Your child's reading skills are developing. He can pull out books for you to read and she can turn the pages herself.

**That's why...** You can make your child an even more active participant in story time. Let her pick books, turn pages, point to pictures, and begin to name them.

**What's that?** Children are learning language fast. They may quadruple the number of words they know between ages 1-2.

**That's why...** Reading aloud is a great way to build vocabulary. Books introduce new words, concepts, and even feelings that might not come up every day. Point to pictures and words, and watch your child begin to make connections.

**Talking is teaching.** Studies have shown that children learn best through back-and-forth interaction with a loving caregiver. That's you!

**That's why...** It's important to ask your child questions about the book, and smile and respond to his questions and observations. Connect the stories you have read together with real life events.

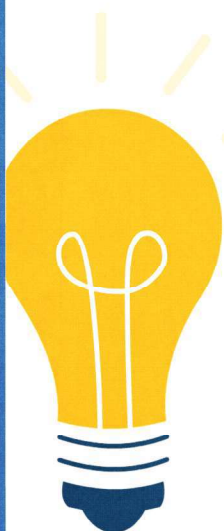
**Again! Again!** Children this age love repetition and familiar phrases.

**That's why...** Your child may want to read the same favorite book over and over. Be patient! Gently introduce new books that may become the next favorite.

## DID YOU KNOW...

**When you read aloud you're giving your child:**

- More vocabulary
- An understanding of how books and reading work
- Knowledge about the world and people
- Food for the imagination
- Memories of your special time together
- A love of reading and learning that will last a lifetime



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