

Help your baby learn



Talk

Talk to your baby while you are doing things, such as dressing or bathing. Tell him what you are doing.



Read

Read simple and colorful books with your baby every day.



Sing

Sing songs and play nursery games with your baby, such as peek-a-boo.



Play

Imitate your baby's sounds. Wait for him to try and make them back to you.



Interior Health

Listen To Me Talk **By 6 Months**



Speech & Language Development

Adapted from Toronto Preschool Speech and Language Services' *Talking Matters: A guide to communicating with your child.*

By 6 months

Babies learn to communicate by listening to voices and sounds.

A baby soon learns to make sounds to tell you how he feels or what he wants.

Babies develop at their own rate. Some babies do things at a young age; some will take a little longer.

How your baby communicates

Understands

- is soothed by calm, gentle voices
- likes to cuddle and be held
- responds to his name
- recognizes familiar faces and objects (*spoon, bottle*)
- smiles at self in mirror
- follows moving objects with eyes
- watches your face when you talk

Expresses

- reaches for, holds, and puts toys in mouth
- smiles at people
- enjoys babbling (*baba, googoo*)
- laughs, pouts/protests, complains
- coos and squeals for attention
- uses different cries when hungry, tired or wet

Your baby should have a speech & language check if...

- He does not smile at you or make sounds.
- He does not react to your voice or other sounds.

See an audiologist for concerns with hearing.

Help your baby today

You and your baby can meet with a speech-language pathologist.

Call your local Health Unit.