

# Help your child learn



## Talk

Talk about what you and your child are doing. Make important words stand out by saying them slowly.



## Read

Read simple stories with pictures. Talk about the pictures he is interested in.



## Sing

Sing simple songs and nursery rhymes, such as *Itsy Bitsy Spider* and *Row Your Boat*. Have fun doing actions with the songs.



## Play

Play make-believe with toys, such as tea party or putting a doll or teddy bear to bed. Watch to see what he is interested in and take turns.



Interior Health

## Listen To Me Talk

## By 2 years



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

## **By 2 years**

Between the ages of two and five years, a child's speech and language develops a lot.

The number of words your child can say increases quickly.

His use of language increases as he begins to ask many questions during everyday activities.

He enjoys listening to stories and music.

Often he will ask you to read the same story over and over again.

## **How your child communicates**

### ***Understands***

- enjoys listening to simple stories
- points to body parts and familiar objects when asked, “show me your nose” or “where’s the ball”
- responds to pictures of familiar people and things
- responds to questions correctly by saying yes or no

### ***Expresses***

- says 50 – 100 words
- tries to say words, but they may not always be clear (*Wha dat?* for *What’s that?*)
- says two words together (*more milk, want up*)
- uses some describing words (*hot, big, wet*)
- asks questions (*What’s that?*)

## **Your child should have a speech & language check if...**

- He does not say at least 50 words.
- He does not say two words together (e.g., *mommy up*, *more water*).

See an audiologist for concerns with hearing.

## **Help your child today**

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

Call your local Health Unit.