

## BABY IS GROWING IN WAYS



### HEARING & UNDERSTANDING

- Startles to loud sounds.
- Quiets or smiles when you talk.
- Seems to recognize your voice and quiets if crying.



### TALKING

- Makes cooing sounds.
- Smiles at people.
- Has different cries for different needs.

## TEACH! TALK! MIRROR!

How can you help your baby learn?



**Teach** your baby to talk. Talk, pause, and wait for your baby to coo or smile. Talk again. This teaches turn taking that is needed for conversation.

**Talk** as much as possible during the day and respond to your baby's communication attempts by looking at her and imitating the sounds she makes.

**Mirror** your baby's laughter and facial expressions.

**Talk about what you are doing**, such as dressing, bathing, and feeding.

**Talk about where you are going**, what you will do once you get there, and who and what you'll see.

**Teach animal sounds**. A cow says, "moo."

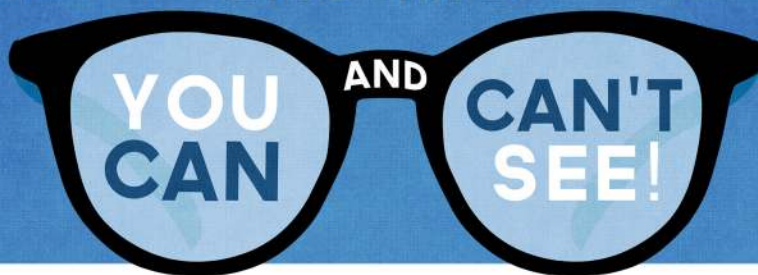
**Communicate** with your child in the language you are most comfortable using.

TALKING IS  
TEACHING

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

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

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



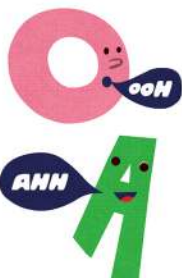
**Start reading now!** The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends reading with your baby right from birth.

**That's why...** babies can benefit from reading aloud from day one. Books feed babies' growing brains.



**Smile!** Babies love looking at faces and seeing your emotions.

**That's why...** they love books with real pictures and bright colors - *and most of all, your voice!* Snuggle up with your baby on your lap and enjoy the feeling.



**Oohs and ahhs!** Your baby's coos are more than cute – they're vowels! By practicing with loved ones, your baby is figuring out which sounds are important to learn to talk.

**That's why...** reading aloud every day s-l-o-w-l-y, stretching out the sounds in a fun way and responding to the sounds your baby makes is so powerful.

## DID YOU KNOW...

- Your baby's brain is making literally trillions of connections during the first few years, the fastest it will ever grow.
- Babies learn best by listening to loved ones talk, sing, and read. There is no substitute for **YOU**.



AMERICAN  
SPEECH-LANGUAGE-  
HEARING  
ASSOCIATION

Read Aloud 15 MINUTES and the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association are proud to collaborate on this initiative to reach parents of young children.



Read Aloud  
**15 MINUTES**  
Every child. Every parent. Every day.