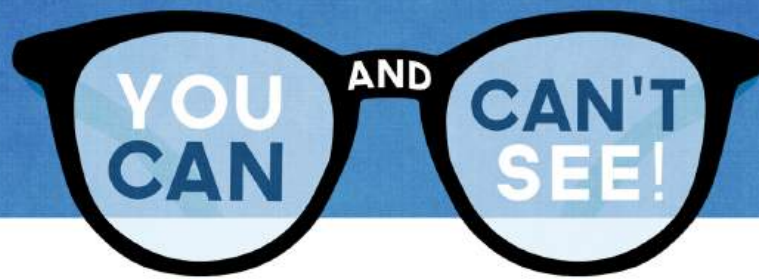


# YOUR CHILD IS GROWING IN WAYS



## HEARING & UNDERSTANDING

- Understands words for order, such as *first*, *next*, and *last*.
- Understands words for time, such as *yesterday*, *today*, and *tomorrow*.
- Follows longer directions, such as "Get the box of crayons, find some paper, and pick out three colors."
- Understands most of what is said at home and at school.



## TALKING

- Says all speech sounds in words. May make mistakes on some sounds, such as *l*, *s*, *r*, *v*, *z*, *j*, *ch*, *sh*, and *th*.
- Names letters and numbers.
- Tells a short story.
- Talks in different ways depending on the listener and place. Uses short sentences with younger children and talks louder outside than inside.

## TALK! ASK! ENCOURAGE!

How can you help your child learn?

**Talk** about what happens *first*, *next*, and *last* in books.

**Ask** *why* questions, such as "Why do we need to eat breakfast?"

**Encourage** your child to express opinions and describe feelings.



TALKING IS  
TEACHING



LISTENING IS  
LEARNING

**Use the correct sounds in your own speech.** Your child may have trouble saying certain sounds and is listening to you.

**Listen to music and sing songs together.** Sing nursery rhymes, songs that repeat words, and songs that tell a story.

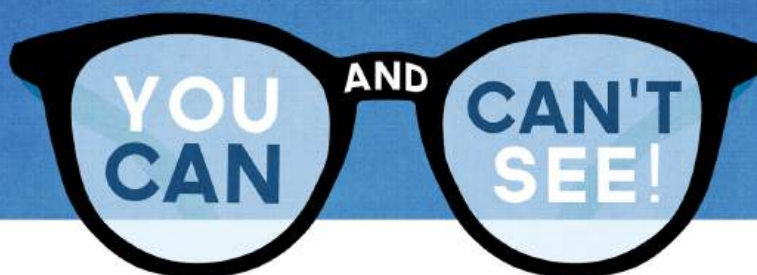
**Help your child listen for details.** Tell stories and ask questions.

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!

**Listening and learning.** Your child is able to sit still and focus for even longer stories.

**That's why...** You — *and* your child — can choose from a variety of books that introduce new ideas, words, and feelings. Relate the story to your child's own life. Use books to begin conversations about new experiences.

**Print is everywhere!** Your child is starting to recognize letters and numbers, learn letter names and sounds, and copy letters and numbers in writing.

**That's why...** It's great to run your finger under the words as you read. Ask your child to identify letters and letter sounds, and point out words and pictures with similar sounds. Say the letters in your child's name. Practice writing his name together.

**Let's go to the library!** From story times to summer programs, from picture books to early readers, your library has books that will help your family.

**That's why...** A library card is a must-have. Plan a trip to the library and let your child pick out books. Listen to story time. Encourage a love of the library, learning, and reading.

**Hey, that line is a rhyme!** Your child is learning how to recognize and make rhymes.

**That's why...** Reading aloud in a fun way can help your child learn. Choose books with repeated phrases and rhymes, and pause the story to allow your child to finish a familiar line.

## 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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SPEECH-LANGUAGE-  
HEARING  
ASSOCIATION

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