

Communication

Activities to Help Your Child Grow and Learn



Your child can talk about many things and can follow simple directions. She will make mistakes with her grammar, such as saying “foots” instead of feet. Your child can tell you what’s happening. She is using longer sentences now. Talk about what happened during the day. Read to your child every day. She might even pretend to read favorite books by herself, using the words you have read to her.

Reading Magazines

Talk about the pictures in magazines. Find pictures that your child will recognize, such as toothpaste, soap, diapers, pets, or cars. Point to the picture and ask, “What is this? Do we have this at home? What do we do with this?”

Silly Me

Your child will have fun when you act silly. Pretend you don’t know what things really are. Point to the toothpaste and ask your child, “Is that the soap?” Let him tell you what it really is. Act surprised. Your child will enjoy “teaching” you the right name of things.

Bandage Game

Make pretend bandages using tape or stickers. Ask your child, “Where is your cut?” See how many body parts your child can name. Give her some help for the tricky ones, “Oh, you hurt your wrist.” Put a bandage on each part. You can wash the bandage off during bath time. This game can also be played with a doll or stuffed animal.

Let’s Put Things Away

Have your child help you put away things like food or folded laundry. Use words such as *up*, *down*, *over*, or *through*: “Please put the can *on* the shelf” or “Please put your socks *in* the drawer.” Thanks for the help! You can give silly directions, too: “Put the lemons *under* the chair.”

What’s Going On?

Ask your child to tell you what is happening in a picture in a book or magazine: “What is the baby doing? What is the dog doing?” Then, listen carefully to your child’s interesting story.

What’s Your Name?

Play this silly name game. When you greet your child, act as if you don’t know who he is. Say, “Hello, little boy. What’s your name?” When he tells you, greet him with happy surprise: “Oh, you’re my little boy! I’m so happy to see you!”

Notes:



Don’t Forget! Activities should be supervised at all times by an adult. Any material, food, or toy given to a young child should be reviewed for safety.