

# Early Interactions

Children thrive when they have trusting, responsive, and warm relationships with their caregivers.



## TRUST IN ME

Children learn to trust others through warm, responsive relationships. This trust gives them the confidence needed to explore and is essential for school readiness.



### TRY THIS!

When your child feels hurt or scared, respond to them. Crouch or sit down near your child, saying, “Ouch! I see that hurt!” or “Wow! That was scary!” Then, comfort or encourage them. Say, “What do you need?” or “Let’s try again!”



## TALK THE TALK

“Parentese” is the sing-song tone of voice often used with infants. Responding to infant babbling with complete sentences and “parentese” supports language-learning.



### TRY THIS!

Have a conversation during snack time! Speak in complete sentences, like “Are you full?” Vary your word choice and repeat concepts, like “Are you finished eating?” and, “You ate your applesauce! You really like applesauce!”



## FACE TIME

Children learn best from face-to-face interactions. When caregivers use eye-gaze, pointing, gestures, and parentese, children are more attuned to their environment.



### TRY THIS!

At the grocery store, direct your child’s attention to both new and familiar foods. Point to them, saying, “You had a banana for breakfast!” Turn your head to look, saying, “Look at all of these green limes! Limes are very sour.”

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