

# Language in the 2nd Year

Children's language is enriched when they practice through high-quality interactions with their caregivers.



## SOUND OFF!

Across cultures, babies practice language by making vowel-like sounds soon after birth. They build on these sounds, adding consonants, then syllables, words, and sentences.



### TRY THIS!

Narrate your daily activities. While at the grocery store, say what you see! Pick up produce, saying, "These bananas are so yellow! That means they're ripe!" Or, "These apples look tasty, we can use them to make applesauce!"



## Q & A

Children use different strategies to learn language and will make errors—but that's ok! Children's words and sentences will become more adult-like as they hear more language.



### TRY THIS!

Open-ended questions help children develop language and critical thinking skills. These questions avoid yes or no answers and spark conversation. Ask, "What did you see today?" Or, "Tell me about your drawing."



## TELL A DIFFERENT STORY

Children's language develops during interactions. Children who experience more high-quality interactions tend to use more words and longer sentences.



### TRY THIS!

Read and tell stories with your child. Go beyond the story by having a conversation. Ask your child questions like, "What do you think will happen next?" Or, "How many ducks do you see? Let's count them!"

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