

- **Read rhyming books together:** Talk about how the words have the same endings, listen to and play with rhyming words together.
- **Encourage pretend play:** playing with your child is a wonderful way to have fun and build language skills!
- **Sing songs together:** have fun singing songs, use actions with songs.
- **Read words on signs and labels:** explore print in the environment through reading and talking about signs and labels. Talk about the sounds within the words, for example, McDonald's sign has a big M, M says "mmmmm".
- **Explore interesting books together:** read books that are of interest to your child, allow them to help "tell" the story through pictures. Remember to follow his lead, if he wants to stop and look at a favorite page, spend time talking about and exploring together.

\*\*If you have any concerns about your child's speech, language or hearing, please connect with your child's teacher.



Supporting Speech  
Language and  
Communication



## Here are some ways to play, explore and build communication skills with your child:

Retrieved from Talk Box Newsletter, Your 4 Year Old: A parents Guide to creating language-rich environments. <http://www.humanservices.alberta.ca/documents/talk-box-newsletter-four-year-old.pdf>; Capital Health, 2007.

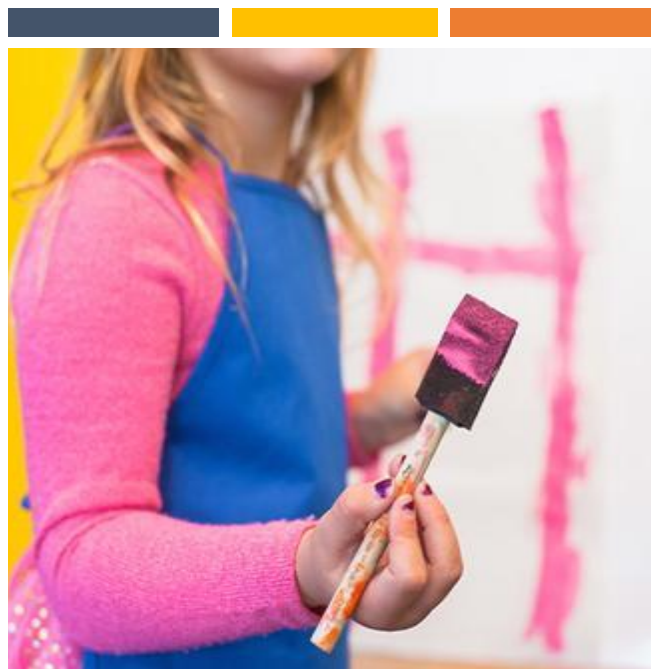
- **Let your child lead:** Talk about what he is doing or things he is interested in. Follow his interests.
- **Be face to face:** Get down to your child's level so she can see your face while playing.

Dear families,

The school Speech Language Pathologists work on supporting communication and learning in the following areas:

- Using and understanding language
- Articulation (speech sounds)
- Social skills
- Hearing loss supports
- Phonological awareness (Pre reading)
- Augmentative/Alternative communication
- Fluency (stuttering)
- Voice

Support can be provided in various ways including: observing and interacting in the classroom, providing formal and informal assessments/reviews, consultation, direct therapy and programming supports.



## Language is learned during back and forth conversations in everyday activities.

- **Add new words and ideas to what your child says:** expand your child's speech, add new, interesting words and discuss and show meanings. Talk about how things work and explore together.
- **Repeat what your child says using the correct words:** she needs to hear the correct form, for example if she said "Him goed to the store" repeat the correct form such as "Yes, **HE WENT** to the store".
- **Use describing words:** expose your child to describing words when you talk together. Use words that describe, size, shape, color, texture, etc. Play games together that explore describing such as eye spy.