Monthly Parent Tips to Improve Language and Literacy Skills



Encourage children to start conversations with you. Get face to face with them, wait silently for them to say something and listen closely when they do. When you give children a chance to talk and respond with interest, they feel listened to and are motivated to talk even more. The more children are involved in conversations, the more opportunities they have to practice talking and learn from you.

Tips

Daily Activities:

During meal time, wait silently for your child to show or tell you something. Then comment enthusiastically on what they said or did.

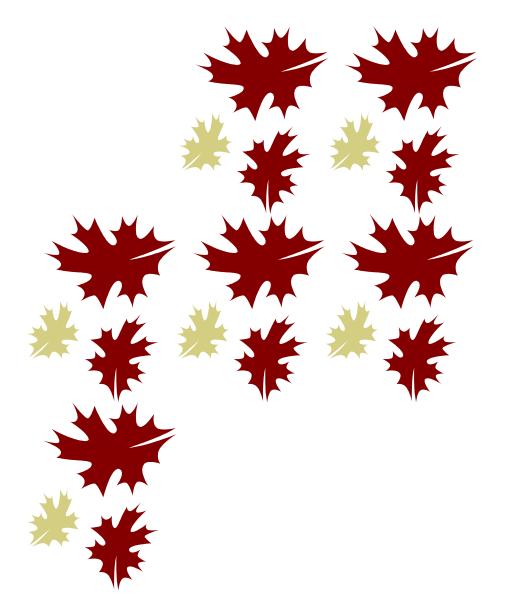
Pretend Play:

If your child is pretending, observe what the play is about. Then join in by taking on a pretend role that builds on their play —but let them lead.

Reading Books:

Let your child "read" a book at their own pace. Spend more time on pages they're most interested in and, when they say something, respond with interest. On the Go...:

When out shopping with your child, pay attention to what they're interested in. For example, if they stop to look at something, take the time to talk about it.



The Greater Essex County District School Board Speech and Language Services

Source: The Hanen Center; 2008 Preschool Language and Literacy Calendar