

Communicating with Infants

What the Research Says

- Research indicates that infants **prefer parentese** to adult conversations.
- Parentese helps your baby's brain **pay attention to language**, becoming an important language learning strategy.
- Parentese is different than *baby talk*. **Parentese uses actual words, prolonged and exaggerated.** *Baby talk* uses sounds and nonsense words.
- Although a **baby's brain is prewired to learn language**, it needs to hear language over and over before brain connections can be formed.
- What happens in a baby's life has a huge impact on how the brain develops. The more language your baby hears, the better the **brain will be able to make strong language connections.**
- Infants are **learning about their language** long before they will be able to *speak* their language.