

Talking With Your Infant-- Development of Spoken Language Activities for Families

- Name aloud objects in your baby's world. This helps him associate spoken words with objects. Say the names of objects that already have your child's interest. For example, if your baby is looking at your pet kitten, you can say, "Look... **kitten**, nice **kitten**."
- Use words to describe *your* everyday actions as you do them. This is called *self-talk*. For example, "I'm getting a clean diaper. Here it is. Let's take the wet diaper off."
- Use words to describe *your baby's* actions. For example, "You rolled over. Look at you roll!"
- Read age appropriate books with your baby. Hearing you read the same words over and over helps her learn that spoken words have meaning.
- Play word games like "Pat a Cake" and "This Little Piggy Went to Market." The growing brain loves rhyme and rhythm.
- Sing songs with your baby. Babies love music. It teaches words but also has a soothing effect.