

Talk With Me

Primary Objectives

10a. Engages in conversations

Why It's Important

Back-and-forth vocal play encourages your child to participate in conversations. He will learn to listen to another person and then respond based on what he hears.

Materials

None

What You Do

1. When your child is engaged in quiet play, begin a conversation with him. *I see you have a soft lamb in your hands. A lamb says baa. Can you say baa?* Allow time for your child to respond.
2. Use a variety of simple but interesting sounds for him to repeat. If he does not immediately understand what you are asking him to do, try again at a different time.
3. Acknowledge all of your child's communication attempts. If he makes an oooo sound, you might say, *I hear you. Oooooo. You are telling me about your lamb.*
4. Each time you speak, allow sufficient time for a response so that your child does not get frustrated.
5. Offer several opportunities throughout the day for your child to use his growing ability to listen and respond.