

Language Skill Builder

Here are some activities to help build your baby's language skills*

Each baby develops language at their own pace. But, there are general activities that can begin around your baby's corrected age of 4 months and will continue throughout baby's first year.

DATE	ACTIVITY	NOTES
<p>/ /</p> <p>.....</p>	 <p>Talk, and more talk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conversation lays the groundwork for verbal development • Provide simple descriptions of what your baby sees, hears, and smells 	<p>Today, I talked about:.....</p> <p>and my baby's reaction was:.....</p> <p>.....</p>
<p>/ /</p> <p>.....</p>	 <p>Read like crazy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read aloud to promote speech and encourage imitations • Use facial expressions, silly sound effects, and character voices 	<p>Today, I read:.....</p> <p>and my baby liked it this much:</p> 
<p>/ /</p> <p>.....</p>	 <p>Motivate to imitate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Your baby has been imitating you from the start; begin repeating their sounds back to them • Encourage your baby to respond and imitate you, and react positively when they do 	<p>Today, my baby imitated:</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>
<p>/ /</p> <p>.....</p>	 <p>Point and share</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At about 9 months, ask your baby questions such as "Where's Mama?" or "What's that?" and stimulate with finger pointing • Ask your baby to find a person or object you've named (such as a toy or bottle) 	<p>Today, my baby found their:</p> <p>.....</p> <p>when I asked them to.</p>

* Every baby develops differently. If you have concerns about your baby's growth, speak with their healthcare professional.

Language Skill Builder

Here are some activities to help build your baby's language skills*

Each baby develops language at their own pace. But, there are general activities that can begin around your baby's corrected age of 4 months and will continue throughout baby's first year.

DATE	ACTIVITY	NOTES
<p>/ /</p> <p>.....</p>	<p>Baby babble</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respond to your baby's nonsense syllables while engaging in silly conversations Allow them time to talk, and respond to what your baby says as if talking to a dear friend—ask questions, talk about your day, etc. 	<p>We had a good conversation today. It was about:</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>
<p>/ /</p> <p>.....</p>	<p>Every word counts</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Counting objects with your baby provides repetition that leads to imitation Count baby's fingers or toes out loud energetically; fill and empty baskets with toys as you encourage your little one to acknowledge and/or repeat each item by number 	<p>My baby repeated their first number today. It was:</p> <p>.....</p> <p>.....</p>
<p>/ /</p> <p>.....</p>	<p>Tune in</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pair up a childhood song such as "Itsy Bitsy Spider" with simple hand movements to help your baby learn the rhythm of language Guide your baby's hands as they watch you sing; later, leave a word out of the song and let them try to fill in the blank 	<p>Our favorite baby song right now is:</p> <p>.....</p> <p>My baby's favorite part is:</p> <p>.....</p>
<p>/ /</p> <p>.....</p>	<p>Shhhhh...</p>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Periodically eliminate the sounds of the television, music, or computer Illogical as it seems, this can build your baby's language skills by giving them time to practice without distraction 	<p>During my baby's quiet time today, I eliminated:</p> <p>.....</p> <p>and my baby was practicing:</p> <p>.....</p>

* Every baby develops differently. If you have concerns about your baby's growth, speak with their healthcare professional.