

# Supporting Language & Literacy

## 24 Months: Phonics & Phonological Awareness

Phonics is all about understanding the relationship between letters and sounds, and a critical skill for learning to read and write. You can help your child develop this awareness at home with fun games and activities.

### TIPS & ACTIVITIES



Play “Ready, Set, Go!”  
Pull your child back in a swing, and say, “Ready... Set...” and then say, “Go,” when you push the swing.

Sing songs involving movement, like Head, Shoulders, Knees, and Toes.



Help your child sound out words. Your child says, “A nana.” You say, “Yes. A banana.”



Read repetitive books. The hungry caterpillar by Eric Carle is a great example.



Sing the ABCs. If you can, point to the letters as you sing them.



## Common Language Milestones

Uses and understands at least 50 words, although speech may not always be clear

Follows two-step related directions, like, “Pick up your coat and bring it to me”

Uses more complex gestures, such as blowing a kiss or nodding “yes”

Begins using two-word phrases, like “more milk” or “no juice”

Understands action words, like “come” or “go”

Uses words like “me,” “mine,” and “you”

# Early Detection is Intervention

## Your child is always learning.

As a caregiver, you have an amazing opportunity to guide them on a path to success! If you notice your child is having difficulties with a certain skill, isn't meeting multiple milestones, or if something just doesn't feel quite right, talk with your child's healthcare provider.



### Tips to set you and your child up for success when speaking with their healthcare provider:

Keep a journal.

Write down things that you notice your child doing, or not doing, that cause reason for concern.

Use your resources.

Explore the websites below to find milestone checklists, a list of early warning signs, videos, and more.

Trust your instincts.

You know your child best and you are their best advocate. Don't be afraid to speak up.

#### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

[Pathways: Communication](#)

[Harvard University: Center on the Developing Child](#)

[Cox Campus](#)

[The Basics](#)

[CDC Milestones](#)