

Supporting Language & Literacy

4 Months: Give Sounds Meaning & Get Everyone Involved

When you and others respond to your baby's sounds and other cues, they learn that their sounds and movements mean something. You are teaching them that their voice matters. Include everyone in the family in conversations with baby and encourage kids and adults to have their own conversations with their newest family member.

TIPS & ACTIVITIES



Copy baby's sounds and see how long your baby "talks" back-and-forth with you.

Respond positively to your baby.



Act excited, smile, and talk to baby when they make sounds.



Let your baby have time to move and interact with people and objects.



Common Language Milestones

Uses eye contact, movements, smiles, and sounds to get and keep your attention

Makes different vowel sounds, often combined with a consonant, like "aaagoo"

Listens and makes sounds back when you talk to them

Giggles when you try to make them laugh

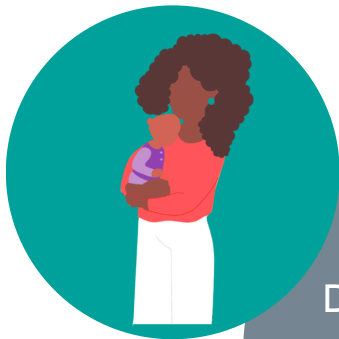
Early Detection is Intervention

Your child is always learning.

As a caregiver, you have an amazing opportunity to guide them on a path to success!



Talk with your child's healthcare provider if your child:



Does not make any vowel sounds (a, e, i, o, u)

Does not smile or laugh

Does not respond to sounds or voices

Avoids eye contact



Source: Pathways.org

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

[Pathways: Communication](#)

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

[Cox Campus](#)

[The Basics](#)

[CDC Milestones](#)