Amy Black-Ryel
SPEECH THERAPY

YEAR 2 to 3

YOUR CHILD IS GROWING IN WAYS YOU CAN AND CAN'T SEE!

HEARING & UNDERSTANDING

- Understands opposite words, such as *go-stop, big-little,* and *up-down.*
- Follows 2-part directions, such as "Get the spoon and put it on the table."
- Understands new words quickly.

TALKING

- Has a word for familiar people, places, things, and actions.
- Talks about things that are not in the room.
- Talks during pretend play, such as saying *beep-beep* when moving cars.
- Uses *k, g, f, t, d,* and *n* in words.
- Uses words like *in, on,* and *under.*
- Asks *why?*
- Puts 3 words together to talk about and ask for things.

DESCRIBE! ASK! ENCOURAGE!

How can you help your child learn?

Describe objects with different sizes, colors, and textures. Use comparison words such as *hard* and *soft.*

Ask your child to name and point to different body parts.

Encourage your child to answer questions and ask *who, what, when,* and *where* questions.

TALKING IS TEACHING

LISTENING IS LEARNING

Ask your child to imitate sounds he hears. Clap your hands, whistle, hum, and snap your fingers. See if he can make the same sounds.

Respond to your child even when she doesn't say all sounds correctly. Use the correct sounds in your own speech. Ask your child to repeat words when you don't understand her.

Get help if you have concerns about your child's hearing or talking.
Visit IdentifytheSigns.org for more information.

YEAR 2 to 3

YOUR CHILD IS GROWING IN WAYS YOU CAN AND CAN'T SEE!

That's why... reading aloud is so important!

Routines feel right! Family routines help a child feel safe, loved, and ready for school and life.

That's why... It's a great idea to find a special time to read to your child every day, whether during meals, at bath time, or at bedtime.

Hello, chatterbox. Your child's language skills are exploding. She may learn 2-4 new words a day.

That's why... Books are great vocabulary builders! Point to pictures and describe them. Ask questions about the story — and encourage your child do the same. Teach your child that words are everywhere! Read signs, menus, and even the words on your technology devices.

Curiouser and curiouser. Your child is exploring and learning about the world. A baby is born with about 100 billion neurons; by age 3, there will be about 1,000 trillion connections.

That's why... It's important to keep books where your child can reach them. Your child may want you to read the same book over and over again. Be willing and patient!

Nurture a reader. Reading aloud every day builds key reading skills and encourages a love of reading.

That's why... Your loving example is the best way to encourage reading and learning. You are creating great memories when you read together. You are also demonstrating how books work — that you turn pages one at a time, that books have a front and back, and that letters form sounds and words.

DID YOU KNOW...

When you read aloud you're giving your child:

- More vocabulary
- An understanding of how books and reading work
- Knowledge about the world and people
- Food for the imagination
- Memories of your special time together
- A love of reading and learning that will last a lifetime

AMERICAN SPEECH-LANGUAGE-HEARING ASSOCIATION

Read Aloud 15 MINUTES and the **American Speech-Language-Hearing Association** are proud to collaborate on this initiative to reach parents of young children.

Read Aloud 15 MINUTES
Every child. Every parent. Every day.

Amy Black-Ryel
SPEECH THERAPY

YOUR CHILD IS GROWING IN WAYS YOU CAN AND CAN'T SEE!

YEAR 3 to 4

HEARING & UNDERSTANDING

- **Responds when you call from another room.**
- **Understands words for some colors, such as *red, blue,* and *green.***
- **Understands words for some shapes, such as *circle* and *square.***
- **Understands words for family, such as *brother, grandmother,* and *aunt.***

TALKING

- **Answers simple *who, what,* and *where* questions.**
- **Says rhyming words, such as *hat-cat* and *silly-billy.***
- **Uses pronouns, such as *I, you, me, we,* and *they.***
- **Uses some plural words, such as *toys, birds,* and *buses.***
- **Asks *when* and *how* questions.**
- **Puts 4 words together. May make some mistakes, such as "I goed to school."**
- **Talks about what happened during the day. Uses about 4 sentences at a time.**

PLAY! TALK! ENCOURAGE!

How can you help your child learn?

Play games that help your child follow directions, such as "Simon Says." Encourage pretend play. Pretend to talk on a toy phone or have a picnic. Build on the conversation.

Talk about the different times of day and the seasons. Ask questions, such as "What do we do in the summer?" Talk about the location of objects. Use words like *under, on,* and *behind.*

Encourage your child to greet other children at the park and invite friends to play. This helps your child learn to use language in different places and with different people.

TALKING IS TEACHING

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SPEECH THERAPY

Sharpen your child's ability to listen and make sounds. Ask her to say *zzzz* like a bee, *ssss* like a snake, and *grrrr* like a tiger.

Help your child listen to different ways we talk. Talk in a soft and loud voice.

Ask your child to repeat a word or sentence that is unclear. If the word is still not clear, ask, "Did you mean____?" and say the word with the correct sound.

Get help if you have concerns about your child's hearing or talking.
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YEAR 3 to 4

YOUR CHILD IS GROWING IN WAYS YOU CAN AND CAN'T SEE!

That's why... reading aloud is so important!

A, B, C easy as 1, 2, 3. Your child may be starting to recognize letters and numbers.

That's why... Books about counting and the alphabet are good choices. While reading, point to the letters, move your finger under words, and talk about pictures and words that begin with the same sound. Display the alphabet where your child can see and interact with the letters — and remember to sing the alphabet song together!

Finding focus. Your child may now sit still longer for stories and have the ability to turn pages one at a time.

That's why... It's great to encourage your child to be actively involved in your read aloud sessions. Have your child choose the book, hold it, and turn its pages. Let him take the lead in telling a familiar story or talking about the pictures.

Rhyme time! Rhyming is a fun way to build language skills.

That's why... You should read nursery rhymes or books with rhyming words and repeated phrases. Pause the story to give your child a chance to finish a familiar line.

Yay! It's story time! Your local library has so much to offer — from a variety of terrific picture books, to story times, and other children's programs.

That's why... You should check out your local library! Get a library card if you don't have one. Ask your child to pick out a few books. She may even find a new favorite!

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