

Language Development

Talk Time

Parentese is characterized by a high-pitched tone and sing-songy voice with stretched-out vowels. Though parents do not realize they do it, this kind of speech helps a baby's brain learn language. (John Medina, 2014). Long-term studies show that talking to your child frequently, to the tune of 2100 words per hour, raises their IQ. By age 3, kids who were talked to regularly, had IQ scores 1 1/2 times higher than those kids whose parents talked to them less. They also did very well in school, including math and science. By the time they entered high school, 62 percent of them were enrolled in gifted or accelerated course work.



Building Vocabulary

- Speaking to your children, as often as possible, is one of the best things you can do for vocabulary development.
- Children exposed to frequent conversation, had increased IQ levels.
- The frequency of conversation, number of words spoken, along with the length and complexity of phrases and sentences, contributes to increased vocabulary.
- With an increased vocabulary of 4,000 to 6,000 words, 4-year-olds usually speak in 5 to 6 word sentences.
- Learning so many words at a time, 4-year-old children often misuse words and mislabel objects.
- 4-year-olds are just learning verb tenses. They often say "goed" for "went".

John Medina, 2014



Oral Language Development

"Reading aloud and talking your child feeds the child's brain 10 million words of raw data each year in the first three years of life."

(J.R. Gentry, 2011).

Tools of the Mind

(Lee Vygotsky, 1978)

Purposeful play is an essential part of language development. Through modeled imaginative play, children understand the language necessary for dramatic play situations such as being a chef, doctor, or teacher. Open-ended play is essential for a child's neural growth. Kids with supported open-ended playtime were:

More Creative:

When compared to control subjects, kids who played in dramatic play situations, came up with more than three times as many creative options for objects.

Better at Language:

Children displayed a richer store of vocabulary and a more varied use of words.

Better at Problem Solving:

In a dramatic play environment, children are provided opportunities to mimic real-world scenarios.

Less Stressed:

As children develop problem-solving skills, they are more aware of ways to complete a task.

Better at Memory:

Play situations improved memory scores; for example, kids who pretended they were at the grocery store remembered twice as many words on a grocery list as controls.

More Socially Skilled:

Dramatic play teaches impulse control and self-regulation.

No two brains develop at the same rate. The brain follows a developmental timetable that is as individual as its owner's personality.

(John Medina, 2014).



Stages of Oral Language Development

1. One-Word Stage

1+ Years- they produce word-like units.

2. Telegraphic Stage

Toddlers string several words together.

3. Beginning Oral Fluency

By ages 3-4, children are fluent in the language used at home. They are beginning to speak in complete sentences and follow grammar rules.

(Otto, 2008)