



From Babble to Chat

Turn your baby's babbling into a tiny back-and-forth conversation.

Helps Your Child Grow



Communicating and Speaking

Ongoing back-and-forth talk gives your baby repeated opportunities to hear language and turn babbling, sounds, or gestures into meaningful communication.

Steps

- Use these habits to help your baby's babbling and gestures become increasingly purposeful communication.
- Point to familiar objects and name them: "This is your bottle."
- After speaking or asking a question, pause so your baby can answer with a sound, gesture, look, or early word.
- Expand a short expression. If your baby says, "Dog," respond, "You want to play with the dog. Here you go."
- Follow what they are already looking at or pointing toward. If their gaze stays in the tree, say, "A bird is singing in the tree - chirp, chirp."

Tips

- Use short, clear phrases and repeat important words. A small amount of language at a time is easier for your baby to follow.
- If your baby produces a sound that is close to a word, respond with the word naturally instead of correcting them. If they look at a dog toy and say "dah," you can answer, "Yes, that's a dog."

Observations

- ☐ Babbles as if talking with you
- ☐ Looks toward you after noticing something interesting