

## Language at Home

### 1. Read books:

- When reading books with a preschooler, it is not as important to read each word on the page. Talk about what's happening in the pictures. (e.g., "Look at the frog jumping;" "What's happening here?")

### 2. Sportscasting:

- Talk about what you're doing during everyday routines. For example, talk about how you're mixing while you cook, how you're walking while you go for a walk, or what your child is wearing while you help them get dressed.

### 3. Add more information:

- If your child is mostly communicating with single words, signs, or gestures, model additional words. For example, if your child pulls you to the bubbles or says, "bubble," you can expand on that and say, "Oh I see you want bubbles! Pop the bubbles."

### 4. Play with your child:

- Participating in pretend play (e.g., dress up or driving the firetruck) can increase language skills. Research has shown that children learn through play in their environment.
- Forced choice: hold up two toys or snacks and wait for your children to communicate which they want, whether they use eye contact, reaching, words, or sentences to request.

### 5. Positive reinforcement:

- Reinforcing a child for any form of communication is important because this will encourage more communication. It could be any form of communication such as: eye contact, grunts, pointing, reaching, verbal approximations and phrases.