

Did you know?

Researchers tell us that children who hear and use lots of words before they enter kindergarten are better prepared to succeed at reading and writing...so...



- Repeat your baby's babbling back to him/her
- Respond to your baby's signals with words
- Tell your baby what you're doing
- Name things for your baby
- Make sentences out of your toddler's single words
- Ask your toddler to point to objects and pictures
- Ask your toddler questions
- Sing with your children
- Name and describe your children's feelings
- Name and describe your own feelings to your children
- Discuss ways to solve problems
- Say "please" and "thank you" to your children
- Talk about people and places you visit together
- Use interesting words to name and describe things
- Choose TV shows carefully. Watch and discuss them together
- Explain new words
- Ask about your child's thoughts and ideas
- Respond to your child's questions patiently
- Tell your children about things that happen
- Ask your children to tell you about things that happen to them
- Look at photos and talk about things that happened in the past
- Give your children new experiences and talk about them
- Read fiction and non-fiction books together and talk about all you find there
- Make mealtimes occasions for eating and talking together

For more information about ways to help your child get ready to read and write, talk to your local youth librarian or call Joan Laurion, Dane County UW Extension, 608-224-3722. UW-Ex provides equal opportunities in employment and programming, including Title IX and ADA. Let us know if you need this material in an alternative format.