

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.