

Simple Play Activities to Develop Your Child's Language



**PLAY, TALK, &
GROW TOGETHER!**



Below are 10 activities that are useful for facilitating a child's language during play. The following information provides specific types of simple activities and materials needed for each. In addition, examples of language that can be used for each activity are provided. There are two sets of examples of language. The first set includes one-word examples and the second set includes examples of 2 or 3-word phrases. The language used will vary depending on the level of each child's language

1. Animal Trails

- MATERIALS- play dough & plastic animals
- LANGUAGE-
 - I. Roll, clay, squishy, animal names (i.e., bunny, lion, snake, cow), jump, walk, run, footprints, sssss (snake slither), roaaaar (lion roar), walk, run, color of clay (i.e., red, blue, green)
 - II. Bunny jump, roll clay, green clay, lion roar, snake slither, cow walk, squish clay

2. Let's Glue

- MATERIALS - glue stick with lid, large sheet of paper, scraps for gluing (i.e., paper, felt, feathers)
- LANGUAGE -
 - I. Lid, off, paper, sticky, glue, color of paper (i.e., blue, red, orange)
 - II. Lid off, glue on, stick on, sticky glue, on paper, sticky hand, red/green/blue paper (say the color being used), lid on

3. Ring-Ring

- MATERIALS - toy phone
- LANGUAGE -
 - I. hello, hi, yes, no, thanks, ok, ring-ring
 - II. Press button, who's there, answer phone, hi mama/dada, bye mama/dada

4. Build Time

- MATERIALS - variety of different blocks (i.e., colors, shapes and sizes)
- LANGUAGE -
 - I. Build, block, top, bottom, big, tower, tall, little, color of block (i.e., red, blue, green), more
 - II. Build up, block on, on top, put on, fall down, big tower, tall tower, very tall, big block, little block, red/green/blue block (say the color being used)

5. Ball Play

- MATERIALS - little ball, bowl, basket, spoon
- LANGUAGE -
 - I. Ball, throw, in, out, spoon, fall, basket
 - II. Throw ball, get ball, ball in, in basket, ball on, on floor, on spoon, ball fall, ball out, pick up

6. Trucks and Ramps

- MATERIALS - little truck, ramp using hard cover books, small toy that will fit in truck (i.e., dog, pig)
- LANGUAGE -
 - I. Go, broom, truck, top, bottom, wee, name of small toy (i.e., pig, dog)
 - II. Ready set go, go truck, truck on, on ramp, on top, on bottom, dog in, in truck, dog on, dog out, off truck, truck down

7. Snack Time

- MATERIALS - little bowl, fruit (i.e., banana, strawberries), plastic knife, cracker, spread (i.e., cream cheese, peanut butter), raisins, plate
- LANGUAGE -
 - I. Yummy, eat, food, hungry, snack, cut, banana, cracker, bowl, in, more, number of raisins (1, 2, 3)
 - II. Eat food, snack time, cut banana, peanut butter on, on cracker, put in, in bowl, 3 raisins (1, 2, 3), strawberry on, on plate, in mouth

8. Pom-pom Play

- MATERIALS - pom-poms, basket, box, plate, spoon
- LANGUAGE -
 - I. Pom-poms, floor, up, in, box, plate, color of pom-pom (i.e., red, blue, green), more, gone
 - II. Pom-poms on, on floor, pick up, pom-poms up, pom-poms in, in basket, in box, on plate, pom-poms off, off plate, red/blue/green pom-pom (say color being used), 3 pom-poms (1, 2, 3), all gone

9. Let's Cook

- MATERIALS - playdough, plastic pot with lid, plastic frying pan, plastic knife, plastic plates
- LANGUAGE -
 - I. Cut, playdough, roll, in, out, pot, lid, off, more, yummy

- II. Cut playdough, roll playdough, in pot, out of pot, in pan, out of pan, lid on, on pot, lid off, on plate, no more, all gone, you make

10. Sandpit Fun

- MATERIALS - sand, plastic bottle with lid, spoon
- LANGUAGE -
 - I. Lid, bottle, off, in, scoop, sand, pour, give, spoon, empty
 - II. Lid on, on bottle, lid off, off bottle, sand in, in bottle, scoop sand, pour sand, give spoon, tip sand, empty bottle, sand gone, all gone, sand on, on spoon