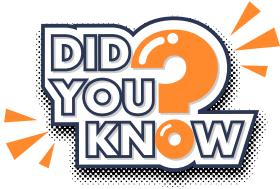




Hearing: Fostering Development

Providing sensory experiences for babies and toddlers expands their understanding of the world around them.



By around 6 months of age, infants can demonstrate the ability to localize sounds, turning their heads toward the direction of a noise.

Any Age:

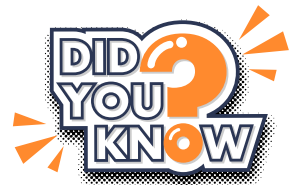
- Follow a daily routine for your little one. Routines help children cooperate, because they come to expect certain ways of doing things;
- Expose the child to a wide range of musical genres and styles;
- Read aloud to children regularly, starting early in life;
- Spend time outdoors, exposing the child to natural sounds'
- Respond to the child's communication attempts.



0-1 years:

- Respond to your child, look at them when they make noises;
- Talk to them, imitate the sound they make;
- Teach baby to imitate actions like clapping, peek-a-boo, & blowing kisses. This teaches turn taking- which is used in conversation;
- Narrate your day- Example: "Mama is getting your food, it's in the refrigerator. I'll put it in the bowl."
- Mark a sound you hear with an action - Lift your index finger by your ear and show a look of concentration. Ask the child 'Can you hear that? It's sounds like a train—Choo Choo.'

Babies exposed to multiple languages from an early age can become proficient in more than one language without confusion.



1-2 years:

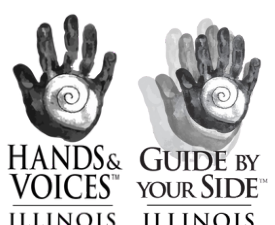
- Read to your child daily. Talk about the pictures on the page;
- Ask the child to name pictures in a book, they may not do it at first;
- Use short sentences and words your child can imitate;
- Use correct grammar;
- Talk about sounds around your house (the doorbell goes "ding!") and during interactions (when playing bubbles say "pop!" as you pop some);
- Talk to your child in the language you are most comfortable using;
- Add words to what your child says, if they say "truck" respond with something like, "Yes, the truck is going fast! Slow down truck."



Check back for updates!



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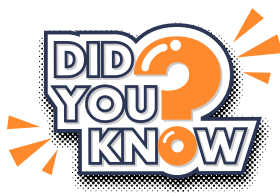


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Hearing: Fostering Development

Providing opportunities for learning, exploration, and positive interactions nurture growth in children.



Preschoolers are surprisingly adept at picking up subtle auditory cues and nuances in speech.

2-3 years:

- Speak clearly;
- Practice counting, fingers toes, count steps;
- Ask them to repeat things that you don't understand, this shows them that what they say is important. If this doesn't work, ask the child to show you.

3-4 years:

- Continue to do the prompts from 2-3 years and 1-2 years.



5-6 years:

- Talk about: opposites, where things are (using words like first, last, right, and left), & categories, sort items into categories and talk about what doesn't belong;
- Keep teaching the child new words;
- Teach the child to ask for help to understand new words;
- Read stories to the child, have the child guess what will happen next;
- Play games like "I Spy;"
- Give the child two step directions;
- Ask them their opinion and let them make choices;



Children sometimes engage in echolalia, where they repeat words or phrases they hear. Echolalia is a normal part of language development as children learn through imitation and repetition.



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