

Communicating

THROUGH THE YEARS

MILESTONE MARKERS

Two to Three Years

HEARING AND UNDERSTANDING

- Understands opposites, like go-stop, big-little, and up-down.
- Follows 2-part directions, like "Get the spoon and put it on the table."
- Understands new words quickly.

TALKING

- Has a word for almost everything.
- Talks about things that are not in the room.
- Uses k, g, f, t, d, and n in words.
- Uses words like in, on, and under.
- Uses two- or three- words to talk about and ask for things.
- People who know your child can understand him.
- Asks "Why?"
- Puts 3 words together to talk about things. May repeat some words and sounds.

WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP?

- Use short words and sentences. Speak clearly.
- Repeat what your child says, and add to it. If she says, "Pretty flower," you can say, "Yes, that is a pretty flower. The flower is bright red. It smells good too. Do you want to smell the flower?"
- Let your child know that what he says is important to you. Ask him to repeat things that you do not understand. For example, say, "I know you want a block. Tell me which block you want."
- Teach your child new words. Reading is a great way to do this. Read books with short sentences on each page.
- Talk about colors and shapes.
- Practice counting. Count toes and fingers. Count steps.
- Name objects, and talk about the picture on each page of a book. Use words that are similar, like mommy, woman, lady, grown-up, adult. Use new words in sentences to help your child learn the meaning.
- Put objects into a bucket. Let your child remove them one at a time, and say its name. Repeat what she says, and add to it. Help her group the objects into categories, like clothes, food, animals.
- Cut out pictures from magazines, and make a scrapbook. Help your child glue the pictures into the scrapbook. Name the pictures, and talk about how you use them.
- Look at family photos, and name the people. Talk about what they are doing in the picture.

DuBard School for Language Disorders can serve as a resource to help ensure you are aware of services available for your child. DuBard School's full-time enrollment program serves children from three to 13 years of age.

Information provided by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association.