24 Ways To Boost Your Child’s Language Skills

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Children who can talk, listen, read, and write do better in school. They feel more sure of themselves. Here’s how you can help.

- Tell your children stories told to you as a child.
- While grocery shopping, talk about what foods you’re buying and why.
- Plan a family reading time. People can read on their own or out loud together.
- Tape-record common sounds. Play them back and see if children can tell what the sounds are.
- Make up stories together. You can start the story. Let them add the next sentence or two. Then take your turn again.

- Sing songs and finger plays together.
- Enjoy books together. You don’t have to teach them how to read. Reading aloud
• Have them help you make a meal. Talk about what you are doing and why. Show recipes to children.
• Be quiet for a moment. Ask them what they hear.
• Let them open and look at junk mail.
• Let them write letters to friends and relatives.

• Read traffic signs, store names and billboards with children.
• Let children play with puppets.
• Be a good model by reading yourself. Let children know you like to read. Show some eagerness for reading.
• Start young if you can; start now if you can't.