



Expand the Child's Message

Help children's language grow by adding words to what they say. Making their sentence more complete, or adding a new idea is a great way to model more advanced language. Here are some fun things to try:

Play Time

During pretend play, expand on what the child says by adding details. For example, if a child is pretending with kitchen utensils and says, "I'm making soup", use their words in your own comment while adding to the message: "You're making vegetable soup. That's so delicious!"



Daily Activities

While taking a bath, add to what the child says. For example, if they say, "Bubbles!", expand their message by adding an idea of your own - e.g., "Yes, let's pop the bubbles!"

On the Go

While at the playground, if the child says an incomplete sentence like, "boy swing", say the grammatically correct sentence back to them - i.e., "Yes, the boy **is swinging**." Emphasize the parts of the sentence that were missing.

Book Reading

When a child makes a comment during book reading, expand on what they say, remembering to include the words they used. If they say, "Goldilocks broke the chair", you can say, "Yes, Goldilocks broke Little Bear's chair because she's too heavy for such a small chair."



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