

# HELPFUL TIPS FOR PROMOTING LANGUAGE

## TALK

Talk out loud about things you are doing throughout the day.

"I'm stirring the soup with a spoon. The soup is hot. The carrots are orange."

## ADD A WORD

If your child is using one word to communicate, add a word.

Child says BALL. You say, BIG BALL or MY BALL or BALL UP or RED BALL or CATCH BALL, etc.

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## WAIT-TIME

If you ask your child a question, pause and wait for a response. We often expect responses to be so quick, when they may need time to process and formulate a response.

## CHOICES

Give them a choice between two things (food, shirt, TV show, etc.)

Do you want \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_

This promotes communication opportunities, and also allows the child to feel a sense of power/control in the communication exchange

## ONE AT A TIME

Set-up situations where the child has to ask for more.

Only pour a little juice or give one chip or give part of a toy.

This forces them to have to communicate a want or need.

## BE FORGETFUL

Set up situations where the child has to ask for something they need.

When you give them cereal, forget the spoon so they'll have to ask for a spoon.