

Supporting Language & Literacy

4 Months: Give Sounds Meaning & Get Everyone Involved

When you and others respond to your baby's sounds and other cues, they learn that their sounds and movements mean something. You are teaching them that their voice matters. Include everyone in the family in conversations with baby and encourage kids and adults to have their own conversations with their newest family member.

Tips & Activities



Copy baby's sounds and see how long your baby "*talks*" back-and-forth with you.

Let your baby have time to move & interact with people and objects.

Act excited, smile, and talk to baby when they make sounds.

Respond positively to your baby.

Common Language Milestones



- Uses eye contact, movements, smiles, and sounds to get and keep your attention
- Makes different vowel sounds, often combined with a consonant, e.g. aaagoo
- Listens and makes sounds back when you talk to them
- Giggles when you try to make them laugh

Early Detection *is* Intervention

Your child is always learning! As a caregiver, you have an amazing opportunity to guide them on a path to success.

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Talk with your child's healthcare provider if your child:



Avoids eye contact

Does not respond to sounds or voices

Does not smile or laugh

Does not make any vowel sounds



Source: Pathways.org

Additional Resources

[Pathways: Communication](#)

[Harvard University: Center on the Developing Child](#)

[Cox Campus](#)

[The Basics](#)

[CDC Milestones](#)