



# Smarter Speech

Pediatric Speech, Language and Learning Solutions

## HOW TO TALK TO YOUR CHILD TO MAXIMIZE LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

### **SPEAK SLOWLY AND CLEARLY**

It is important to speak in such a way that children can catch, understand, and imitate what is being said. Speaking at a slower rate, and emphasizing speech, helps.

### **MONITOR SPEECH COMPLEXITY**

During play and one-on-one activities, use more 1-word utterances for 1 year olds, 3-word utterances for 3 year olds, 5 word sentences for 5 year olds, etc. This ensures they process and repeat back what you say more often and with more accuracy.

### **REPEAT WHAT YOU SAY**

Repeat words, phrases, and sentences with appropriate pauses, at least 2-3 times, to ensure that your child catches new vocabulary and processes new sentence structure.

### **CHECK MILESTONES**

Know which sounds and grammar forms your child should be using at each age. If you suspect that your child's speech or language is delayed, do not "wait and see." Early intervention is the key to not falling behind, and having a firm foundation for learning

**VISIT [WWW.SMARTERSPEECHSLP.COM](http://WWW.SMARTERSPEECHSLP.COM) FOR MORE INFORMATION!**

Speech Therapy in and around Mountain View, CA  
Blog for Parents / Caregivers  
Educational Materials

**"BECAUSE WORDS ARE THE FOUNDATION FOR A CHILD'S EDUCATION."**