

# Appleton Education Foundation and Wisconsin Academy Presentation Series

## “What Does that Gurgle Really Mean? Early Language and Your Toddler”

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### Website Resources

Re: brain plasticity

\*[http://www.sciencemaster.com/columns/wesson/wesson\\_part\\_06.php](http://www.sciencemaster.com/columns/wesson/wesson_part_06.php)

Re: second language learning and brain changes – critical periods for language learning

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/health/3739690.stm>

\*Re: infant brain development and language

<http://www.nccc.org/Release/brain.language.html>

Re: tone language processing

<http://www.physorg.com/news85164217.html>

Re: language and the brain – importance of language

<http://www.ucsd.tv/greymatters/lesson-language.shtml>

Re: infant babbling linked to language?

<http://www.sciam.com/article.cfm?articleID=0008862A-90E4-1D6E-90FB809EC5880000>

\*Re: language acquisition and the brain

<http://www.fcs.uga.edu/pubs/PDF/FACS01-6.pdf>

Re: spoken vs. sign language acquisition

<http://faculty.washington.edu/chudler/sign.html>

\*Re: infant language learning and the brain

[http://www.cal.org/earlylang/benefits/research\\_notes.html](http://www.cal.org/earlylang/benefits/research_notes.html)

\*Re: brain development and language learning

<http://community.learnnc.org/dpi/secondlang/archives/Brain%20Development%20Article.pdf>

\*Re: Language milestones

<http://www.nidcd.nih.gov/health/voice/speechandlanguage.asp>

Re: late talkers

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2006/07/060713090947.htm>

\*Re: helping toddlers talk

[http://www.gurgle.com/videos-2307/Toddler\\_Talking\\_how\\_to\\_help.aspx](http://www.gurgle.com/videos-2307/Toddler_Talking_how_to_help.aspx) (Gurgle video)

\*Re: talking to your toddler

[http://raisingchildren.net.au/articles/talking\\_and\\_listening\\_to\\_your\\_toddler.html](http://raisingchildren.net.au/articles/talking_and_listening_to_your_toddler.html)

\* Information from these sources was used in the presentation

## Book Suggestions

***Look Who's Talking*** by Laura Dyer

***Play to Talk: A Practical Guide to Help Your Late-Talking Child Join the Conversation*** by James MacDonald

***Talking on the Go: Everyday Activities to Enhance Speech and Language Development*** by Dorothy Dougherty and Diane Paul

***Story Stretchers for Infants, Toddlers, and Twos: Experiences, Activities and Games for Popular Children's Books*** by Shirley Raines, Karen Miller and Leah Curry-Road

***Bonding While Learning: Activities to Grow Your Relationship While Preparing for Reading Success*** by Gary Kosman

***What's Going On In There? : How the Brain and Mind Develop in the First Five Years of Life*** by Lise Eliot

***Your Child's Growing Mind: Brain Development and Learning from Birth to Adolescence*** by Jane Healy

## Communication Enhancement Ideas

- When your child coos or babbles, imitate the sound, changing it slightly every now and then.
- Play simple games such as 'peek-a-boo'.
- Talk to your child using short and simple sentences.
- Talk about objects that you see or hear (“Look! A ball!”). Point to the object while you talk.
- Sing songs and rhymes together (“Itsy Bitsy Spider”, “Wheels on the Bus”, “Patty Cake”).
- Expand on single words (if your child says “car”, you can say “push the car”).
- When your child babbles or talks, smile and show them that you are listening.
- Look at books together and talk about the pictures.
- Talk about what is happening in the here and now.
- Look at your child when you talk to them and encourage them to return your gaze.

Modified from materials found at The Children's Hospital at Westmead & Sydney Children's Hospital, Randwick Web site  
<http://www.chw.edu.au/parents/factsheets/language.htm>