

## LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

### What to look for

#### Your child...

- ✓ Can speak in complete sentences
- ✓ Can follow directions with at least two steps
- ✓ Can understand words such as 'top' and 'bottom', 'big' and 'little'
- ✓ Can follow directions in a simple game with other children or adults.
- ✓ Can say or sing familiar songs and nursery rhymes
- ✓ Can recognize when words rhyme, such as 'cat' and 'hat'

#### To encourage your child's language development:

- ★ Take time each day to listen to and talk with your child. Some good times for conversation are while traveling, at mealtimes and at bedtime.
- ★ Encourage your child to listen and use language to express ideas.
- ★ Involve your child in activities and games that require listening and following directions.
- ★ Read and tell stories that have interesting characters and easy-to-follow plots. Talk with your child about the stories after you read or tell them.
- ★ Read and sing nursery rhymes and rhyming stories with your child.

