**Language Development 3-4 years**

***Children develop at their own rate. Your child might not have all skills until the end of the age range.***

What should my child be able to do?

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| **Hearing and Understanding** | **Talking** |
| * Responds when you call from another room. * Understands words for some colors, like *red*, *blue*, and *green*. * Understands words for some shapes, like *circle* and *square*. * Understands words for family, like *brother*, *grandmother*,   and *aunt*. | * Answers simple who, what, and where questions. * Says rhyming words, like *hat*–*cat*. * Uses pronouns, like *I*, *you*, *me*, *we*, and *they*. * Uses some plural words, like *toys*, *birds*, and *buses*. * Most people understand what your child says. * Asks when and how questions. * Puts 4 words together. May make some mistakes, like “I goed to school.” * Talks about what happened during the day. Uses about 4 sentences at a time. |

What can I do to help?

* Cut out pictures from old magazines. Make silly pictures by gluing parts of different pictures together. For example, cut out a dog and a car. Glue the dog into the car as the driver. Help your child explain what is silly about the picture.
* Sort pictures and objects into categories, like food, animals, or shapes. Ask your child to find the picture or object that does not belong. For example, a baby does not belong with the animals.
* Read, sing, and talk about what you do and where you go. Use rhyming words. This will help your child learn new words and sentences.
* Read books with a simple story. Talk about the story with your child. Help her retell the story, or act it out with props and dress-up clothes. Tell her your favorite part of the story. Ask for her favorite part.
* Look at family pictures. Have your child tell a story about the picture.
* Help your child understand by asking him questions. Have him try to fool you with his own questions. Make this a game by pretending that some of his questions fool you.
* Act out daily activities, like cooking food or going to the doctor. Use dress-up and role-playing to help your child understand how others talk and act. This will help your child learn social skills and how to tell stories.
* Talk to your child in the language you are most comfortable using.