



EXPRESS

Together Every Day!

Expression is one of the ways children can improve their social and learning skills. Children need to learn to use gestures and words, and how to form sentences, while at the same time developing understanding and processing skills.

As these skills are developed successfully, children can better express ideas, thoughts, needs and feelings clearly, while comprehending those of others as well.



Make a Difference for Your Child Today!
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Assumption Parish Ready Start Network is launching Engage, Explore, Express to provide families with valuable resources on how to help their children become more expressive in conversation.

There are ways to improve a child's expressive skills and to monitor progress. Consider using the three T's – Tune In, Talk More, Take Turns.

TUNE IN

There is no time like the present and being present for your child. Take time to interact without any distractions. The purpose of this time is to focus on having rich conversations. Narrate what you are doing, then stop to ask and answer their questions. Point out objects in their world, name, and discuss them. For example, you may point out the “red apple” as a “fruit” and talk through cutting it up and finding the seeds. Tuning in and interacting with conversations, asking questions, and even narrating what you are doing helps ensure your child gets a steady stream of meaningful language.

TALK (READ AND SING) MORE

Reading and singing are two fun ways to talk! Reading to your child every day is a must. Select books with rich language. Do not just read the words, look at the pictures and discuss what they see. Name everything. For example, you might see the picture and word “dove” and say, “That is a fun word, dove. Can you say dove? A dove is a type of bird. Let’s see if we can find it in the sky?” If children cannot experience the real object, seeing a picture of it and talking about it is second best. Reading helps children develop the structure and rhythm of language as they learn unfamiliar words. Be sure to also sing to and with your child. Again, hearing the language, repetition and rhythm allows for greater advancement of oral language.

TAKE TURNS

When talking with children, allow them plenty of time to respond. Sometimes called “wait time,” it provides time to process what you have discussed with them and give them opportunities to apply or practice their own oral language skills.

Your family has the biggest impact on your child’s oral language development. Creating a home environment that recognizes and practices the Three T’s will not only benefit developmental milestones but will also bring your family closer together!





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Oral language development is one of a child's most natural accomplishments.

Children should learn to use gestures and words, and how to form sentences to express themselves. They should also

learn how to process information from others.

There is a natural progression or "timeline" that families utilize to track their child's milestones. The milestones offer doctors and other health professionals a way to determine if your child is on track or may need additional assistance with oral language skills.

Please use the QR code or link to <https://www.readingrockets.org/topics/speech-language-and-hearing/articles/speech-and-language-developmental-milestones> to access a chart of milestones related to speech and language.

Remember, the age-related milestones chart is only a guide.

Assumption Parish Ready Start Network is here to help by providing additional resources.



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