Baby Talk: Resources to Support the People Who Work with Infants and Toddlers

Responding to Babbling Can Support Infants' Language Development

Caregivers can support infants' language development by acknowledging and responding to their vocalizations ("baby talk"), according to research from the University of Iowa. Developmental psychologists found that moms who were attentive and responsive to their infants' babbling reported that their child said more words at 15 months of age. Families and professionals can support babies in learning to speak by talking about what their children seem to be interested in or looking at. A summary and a video summarizing the research and findings are available in English and Spanish.

https://www.childtrends.org/videos/baby-babble-turns-to-talk

The Genius of Play http://www.thegeniusofplay.org/

Through play, children learn valuable skills they'll use for a lifetime. This website is a great source for play ideas that build on these skills, expert advice, and the latest research on the value of play. Check out the Age-by-Age Toy and Play Guide (http://www.thegeniusofplay.org/genius/time/toy-guide.aspx) for ideas on how to playfully support learning and development in children from birth through 12 years.

Milestones in Action: Now Available in Spanish

The *Learn the Signs, Act Early* website from the CDC (https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/) has an amazing array of free resources for families and professionals. A new feature is the **Spanish version** of *The Milestones in Action* **library**. This resource was created to help parents, early care and education providers, and healthcare professionals to identify developmental milestones in very young children (2 months to 5 years) and areas of concern through photos and videos. No permissions are needed to use the photos and images in this library for educational or awareness-building purposes.

Library in Spanish https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/spanish/actearly/milestones/milestones-in-action.html
Library in English https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/milestones/milestones-in-action.html

Screen My Child

There is a new button on the **First Words** website (http://firstwordsproject.com/). Infants and toddlers (9-18 months) can be screened at no cost for skills that develop before children learn to talk, such as gestures, sounds, and actions with objects used in play. Screen My Child uses the Smart Early Screening for Autism and Communication Disorders (Smart ESAC), an online screening tool designed as a universal screen based on parent report. This and other features of the website are available in English and Spanish. Here's where to learn more: http://firstwordsproject.com/screen-my-child/

Supporting Infants and Toddlers with Disabilities or Suspected Delays and Their Families in the Home and in the Classroom

The July 2018 issue of the Disabilities Services Newsletter from the National Center on Early Childhood Teaching, Development, and Learning offers a variety of free resources for supporting young children with or at risk for disabilities. There are articles, practical strategies, videos, and more.

http://hsicc.cmail19.com/t/ViewEmail/j/032C97E100AFC32C2540EF23F30FEDED/A9A8C031E9108EA4F6A1C87C670A6B9F

Baby Talk is a free, one-way listserv that is distributed monthly. Each issue features high quality, readily available, and free resources. Resources highlighted in yellow are available in English and Spanish. To join the listserv, send an email **with no message** to subscribe-babytalk@listserv.unc.edu

Past issues are archived at http://fpg.unc.edu/resources/baby-talk-archive To suggest resources, please contact Camille Catlett at camille.catlett@unc.edu