

## ***General Suggestions to Parents Regarding Speech and Language Development***

1. Be aware of your child's speech.
2. Use correct pronunciation and grammar when speaking with children to give them good speech models to follow.
3. Let children know that you have confidence and pride in them.
4. Make a game of playing with children and let them watch your face and listen to your speech when you talk.
5. Make a game out of playing in front of a mirror so that children can enjoy watching you and imitate facial movements and speech sounds.
6. Read to your children and talk about the pictures with them.
7. Talk to your children and encourage others to do so.
8. Talk to your children in a normal voice and in full sentences.
9. Expect from your children what is socially within their age and mental level.
10. Use encouraging, positive and specific directions to elicit desirable speech.
11. Listen to your children. Encourage them to talk more and more. Children should be HEARD, not just seen.
12. Accept and encourage children's speech; don't interrupt children while they are speaking; don't correct every word they use.
13. After observing and working with your children, seek professional advice if you feel they have communication problems.