



Facts about language development

DID YOU KNOW:

- A 3 year old knows about 1000 words
- Researchers have estimated that we learn 40,000 - 50,000 new words during the first nine years of school. That means that you learn about 100 new words per week at school.
- Exposing a child to more than one language will NOT cause a longstanding speech and/or language delay
- Exposing a child to more than one language MAY mean that he will say his first words slightly later than a child who is exposed to only one language, however it should still be within normal limits (8 to 15 months)
- Ear infections are common among children. Most children will have had at least one ear infection by age three
- Excessive television watching can impede this development. Hours spent watching TV make risk-taking and social relationships difficult for many children.
- Speech difficulties are more common in twins
- Children with speech and language disorders are prone to behaviour problems because of their speech and language difficulties.

HOW CAN I HELP?

- The most important way children develop and learn is through interaction with others –
Talk to your child whatever their age, from the very beginning.
- The more often parents and caregivers talk and respond to the child, the quicker he or she learns. **Talk to your child whatever their age, from the very beginning.**
- Children play because it is fun, but play is also key to their learning and development.
Play with your child, even 5 minutes a few times a week is helpful
- All children grow and develop in similar patterns, but each child develops at his or her own rate. **Speak to a member of our team if you have any questions or concerns.**





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