Transitioning to Kindergarten

For Parents

LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

What to look for

Your child...

✔ Can speak in complete sentences
✔ Can follow directions with at least two steps
✔ Can understand words such as ‘top’ and ‘bottom’, ‘big’ and ‘little’
✔ Can follow directions in a simple game with other children or adults.
✔ Can say or sing familiar songs and nursery rhymes
✔ Can recognize when words rhyme, such as ‘cat’ and ‘hat’

To encourage your child’s language development:

★ Take time each day to listen to and talk with your child. Some good times for conversation are while traveling, at mealtimes and at bedtime.

★ Encourage your child to listen and use language to express ideas.

★ Involve your child in activities and games that require listening and following directions.

★ Read and tell stories that have interesting characters and easy-to-follow plots. Talk with your child about the stories after you read or tell them.

★ Read and sing nursery rhymes and rhyming stories with your child.