

# LANGUAGE STIMULATION TECHNIQUES

## SELF-TALK

Adult talks aloud about what s/he is doing, seeing, hearing, feeling, etc.— give a running commentary of your activities. Keep sentences short but descriptive. Repeat words. Use lots of object names in self-talk.

## PARALLEL TALK

Adult talks aloud about what the child is doing, seeing, hearing, feeling, etc. Talk about the child's actions and the toys s/he is playing with. Occasionally insert simple questions.

## MODELLING

Adult provides a model for the child to imitate. Child may or may not imitate the model after adult says it. Adult may want to acknowledge the imitation with encouragement and delight.

## IMITATION

Adult copies what the child says. Adult uses the standard or correct form of the word or sentence the child has said so child hears correct pronunciation, word choice, and grammar.

## EXPANDING

Adult copies what the child says, but expands on it. This offers child an expansion of vocabulary and language style.

## REPEATING

Adult repeats words and sentences to describe objects, actions, feelings, concepts, etc., within a given period and subsequent periods so child has repeated and varied experiences with the same words.

## ASSOCIATING

Talk about what objects are used for, what they look like, where we might find them, etc. Provide information to associate with the object so child can better understand the meaning of the object, and word, and will be better able to remember it when it is next encountered. (ex: That's a red fire engine. It is red like an apple. It has a siren that makes a loud noise.)

## CATEGORIZING

Talk about how things go together or don't go together—how things are alike or different. Introduce category names and functions or use of objects within the category.

## DEMONSTRATION

Use gesture, pantomime, or actual demonstration along with the words you are saying. This helps child understand meaning of the words used. Try to be consistent with gestures and words used.

## SELF-CORRECTION

Adult makes a mistake in pronunciation or grammar and immediately corrects it. This calls child's attention to the differences between correct and incorrect form without having to correct child.