

Speech-Language Development

Four to Five Years

4-5 Years

- Pays attention to a short story and answers simple questions about it.
- Hears and understands most of what is said at home and in school.
- Makes voices and sounds clear like other children's.
- Uses sentences that give lots of details.
- Tells stories that stick to topic.
- Communicates easily with other children and adults.
- Says most sounds correctly.
- Uses the same grammar as the rest of the family.

What can I do?

- Talk about spatial relationships (first, middle, last; right and left) and opposites.
- Offer a description or clues and have your child identify what you are describing.
- Work on forming and explaining categories.
- Follow your child's directions as he or she explains how to do something.
- Give full attention to your child when he or she is speaking and acknowledge, praise and encourage him or her afterward.
- Build on your child's vocabulary. Provide definitions for words and use them in context.
- Point out things that are the same or different. Play games incorporating these concepts that he or she will encounter later.
- Expand on social communication and narration skills by role-playing.
- Read stories with easy-to-follow plots. Help your child predict what will happen next in the story.

**For more information call 614.263.5151
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