Early Language Home Practice Handouts for Daily Routines

SET 1
Mealtimes

Build language into mealtime activities. Use lots of repetition when modeling language. For example, “It’s time to eat dinner. Let’s eat! You’re eating pizza.”

Practice, practice, practice each day.

Vocabulary

- Nouns: foods, drinks, dishware, utensils, etc.
- Verbs: wash, eat, drink, chew, taste, cut, etc.
- Functional vocabulary: more, give, all done, help, want, get, yes, no, open, etc.
- Adjectives: yummy, yucky, hot, cold, sticky, smelly, tasty, hard, soft, etc.
- Prepositions: in the bowl, on the placemat, under the plate, next to the fork, etc.

Try to help your child get involved as much as is appropriate for her developmental level. Can she set the table? Pour her juice? Stir the oatmeal?

**Vocabulary**

- **Nouns:** foods, utensils, dishware, appliances, etc.
- **Verbs:** wash, cut, slice, cook, heat, stir, pour, scoop, peel, chop, crack, etc.
- **Functional vocabulary:** more, give, all done, help, want, get, yes, no, please, thank you, open, etc.
- **Adjectives:** hot, cold, soft, hard, rough, smooth, yummy, yucky, etc.

**Helpful Hint**

If your child is not able to help prepare real food with you for a meal, try using pretend play foods. Have him mix his pretend soup in a child-safe bowl with a wooden spoon. Consider using Velcro foods to cut with a pretend knife while you model appropriate vocabulary.

Think about language to repeat for teaching. For example, “Let’s cut carrots. Do you want to cut? Wow, you’re cutting carefully!”

Practice, practice, practice each day.

Cleaning

Be generous with repetition when modeling language. For example, “Time to wash the toys. Wash it with water. Mommy is washing your toy.”

Practice, practice, practice each day.

Set up a toy washing station. Fill up a small tub with soapy water. Help your child safely clean her toys and dry them. Use this activity as an opportunity to teach her new vocabulary and practice using her words/phrases to complete the routine.

Vocabulary

- Nouns: cleaners, soap, paper towels, towels, dishware, toys, etc.
- Verbs: wash, dry, scrub, wipe, clean, spray, etc.
- Functional vocabulary: more, give, all done, help, want, get, yes, no, please, thank you, open, etc.
- Adjectives: dirty, clean, wet, dry, hard, soft, shiny, sticky, smooth, bumpy, dusty, etc.

Art Time

Show your child how to describe by commenting about what she is doing and what she was made. “Wow, that’s a pretty green tree.” “You’re coloring the chicken.”

Art is a great time to practice requesting. Have your child use a word, phrase or sentence to request the art supplies he needs, such as asking for a red pencil.

Vocabulary

- Nouns: brush, scissors, paper, glue, paint, etc.
- Verbs: paint, glue, cut, paste, color, draw, etc.
- Functional vocabulary: more, give, all done, help, stop, want, get, yes, no, please, thank you, open, etc.
- Adjectives: wet, dry, beautiful, bright, light, dark, etc.
Bath Time

Incorporate songs that teach vocabulary into your bath time routine. Here are some ideas:

- Use boat toys and sing: “Row, Row, Row Your Boat”
- Wash body parts while singing: “Head, Shoulders, Knees & Toes”
- Teach bath vocabulary while modifying “If You’re Happy & You Know It”
  - e.g., “If you’re happy and you know it wash your foot”

Bath time creates a wonderful chance to teach new vocabulary and concepts. It’s a fun and interactive way to practice language & it is built right into your daily routines.

Vocabulary

- Nouns: toiletries (soap, shampoo, body wash), bubbles, water, tools (loofah, washcloth, towel), etc.
- Verbs: wash, dry, scrub, wipe, clean, rinse, etc.
- Functional vocabulary: more, give, all done, help, stop, want, get, yes, no, please, thank you, open, etc.
- Adjectives: dirty, clean, wet, dry, soapy, full, empty, etc.
- Body parts: tummy, head, feet, arms, legs, hands, ears, etc.

Consider taking pictures of your child doing the steps of brushing his teeth. Tape the pictures in the bathroom and help him tell the story of how he brushes his teeth.

**Practice, practice, practice** each day.

**Vocabulary**

- **Nouns:** toothbrush, toothpaste, floss, water, cup, etc.
- **Verbs:** brush, rinse, spit, swish, etc.
- **Functional vocabulary:** more, give, all done, help, stop, want, get, yes, no, please, thank you, open, etc.
- **Adjectives:** dirty, clean, wet, dry, smelly, fresh, etc.
- **Body parts:** mouth, gums, tongue, teeth, etc.
Bedtime Routine

Provide lots of repetition when modeling language. For example, “It’s time to brush your hair. Let’s brush it! I’m brushing your hair…”

Practice, practice, practice each night.

Incorporate calming songs, book reading and conversation into your night time routine. These language-rich activities can be done while your child gets into his pajamas, brushes his hair and while you snuggle him in bed.

Vocabulary

- Nouns: hairbrush, pajamas, bed, pillow, blanket, book, etc.
- Verbs: brush, dress, snuggle, read, hug, kiss, sleep, whisper, yawn, cuddle, etc.
- Functional vocabulary: more, give, all done, help, stop, want, get, yes, no, please, thank you, open, I love you, etc.
- Adjectives: sleepy, tired, cold, hot, etc.
Fonts, Frames & Backgrounds

Clip Art