

## By 12 months, your child should:

- follow simple one-step directions . sit down
- look across the room to something you point to
- consistently use three to five words
- use gestures to communicate - waves *bye-bye*, shakes head *no*
- get your attention using sounds, gestures and pointing while looking at your eyes
- bring you toys to show you
- perform for attention and praise
- combine lots of sounds as though talking - *abada baduh abee*
- show interest in simple picture books
- respond to his or her name



If your baby is having difficulty with any of the above, contact  
**Preschool Speech and Language:**  
 613-969-7400 x 2264 (Bancroft 613-332-2825 x 6208)  
 You do not need a doctor's referral.



## Babies like it when you:

- ❖ Get down to their level so they can see your face. This tells them that you're interested in what they're doing and saying and it makes it easier to interact with you.
- ❖ Repeat the sounds they make. Babies enjoy making noises, and like it when you imitate them over and over.
- ❖ Sing and laugh, especially when you are feeding, bathing, and changing them. Remember to talk to your baby throughout the day about things you do and see - *Mommy's putting on her coat*, or *That's a big truck*. Use short sentences. Name body parts and clothing.
- ❖ Tell them the names of the objects they are looking at and playing with. Interpret his interest, by saying it as you think he would if he could.
- ❖ Name new things that you see together. Babies are interested in exploring and learning and like to hear what things are called. Play Hide the object, first by allowing your baby to watch you hide it then try partially hiding the object without letting him watch.