

By 4 years, your child should:

- use adult-type grammar
- follow directions involving 3 or more steps
—*first get some paper, then draw a picture, last give it to mom*
- tell stories with a clear beginning, middle and end
- talk to try to solve problems with adults and other children
- demonstrate increasing complex imaginative play
- be understood by strangers almost all the time
- be able to generate simple rhymes – *cat/bat*
- match some letters to their sounds – *letter T says tuh*



If your preschooler 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.



Preschoolers like it when you:

- ❖ Give lots of opportunity to play with other children – at the library, the park, the Early Years Centre. Sometimes she might like to have just one or two friends over to your home to play.
- ❖ Point out words in books and run your finger under the words while you read.
- ❖ Talk about the order of events – describe what happens first, next and last – *first we wash our hands, then we have a snack and last we put our dishes in the sink.*
- ❖ Encourage your child to tell her own stories – by asking her to tell you about her day, to describe a movie she watched, to tell you about her favorite book.
- ❖ Read books with rhyming words – *mouse/house*, and point out sounds at the start of words – *Mommy starts with the 'mmm' sound – that's the letter M.*
- ❖ Try out a category game: help your child pick an object that doesn't belong with other objects. Put together a group of three objects such as an apple, an orange, and a shoe. Talk about why the shoe doesn't belong. Try the game with a different group of objects.
- ❖ Play simple rule games together, like *Go Fish*, and *Snakes and Ladders*.