

Milestones and Ideas - 48-60 Months

For Speech and Language Development

Milestones

When explaining something or telling a story, your child sticks to the topic and strings together ideas in an understandable sequence

Sentences give details and use adult-like grammar

Plays with words in silly rhymes

Identifies and names different colors

Enjoys dramatic play with other children

Speech sounds accurate except l, r, th, v, c h and j

Communication Ideas

My Own Storybook

Get your child to create about themselves. Begin by attaching several pieces of paper together with tape, staples, yarn or ribbon. Your child can paint or glue pictures of family members or pictures of things he likes from magazines. He can trace his hand on a page or draw pictures. Have your child read to you the story they created.

Games with Rules

At this age your child may enjoy learning games that have rules. You can play board games like Mouse Trap or Snakes and Ladders. Playing card games with your child, such as Go Fish, Old Maid, Uno or other game is also fun. When playing with other children play with them at first to help them learn about rules and taking turns.

Guess the Animal

This is an animal guessing game for the whole family to play. Find pictures of animals in old magazines and cut out the pictures. Have one person at a time choose a picture and let no one else see what the picture is. The other people playing get to ask yes/no questions about the animal (e.g., "Does the animal swim?" "Is it bigger than a cat?"). When someone guesses the animal correctly, it's another person's turn to choose an animal card and let the others guess what kind of animal it is.

Memories of the Day

Just before bed, sit down and have a soft talk with your child. Ask him, "What was your favorite thing that happened today?" Share your favorite events of the day too.

Switching Roles

For part of the day switch roles and let your child pretend to be the parent. You pretend to be the child and need her help. She can pretend to be you and help you get dressed or brush your hair. Keep the game positive and fun. The make-believe could include a change of duties, clothes, behaviors, vocabulary, and other habits.

Warning Signs: Does your child not use complete sentences?

Does your child not seem to be able to follow directions?

Does your child stutter?

