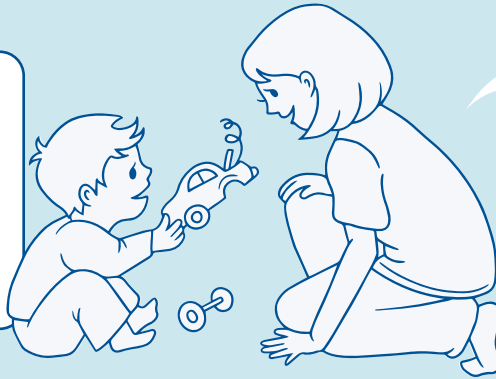


# What to Say — It's All About Words

Vocabulary development is very important to a child's language and literacy skills. Words help children learn about their world and the more words they know the more information they have. But it's not just about HOW MUCH you say but also about the different TYPES of words you use that helps develop your child's vocabulary. A recent study showed that different ages need different inputs.

**Children between 12-24 months**  
need to hear lots of talking  
and many, many words  
= **QUANTITY**



*Oh no! Need help?*

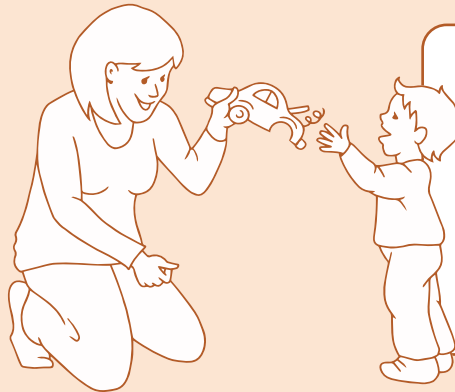
*The car's broken.*

*We need to  
fix the car.*

*The car can't roll.*

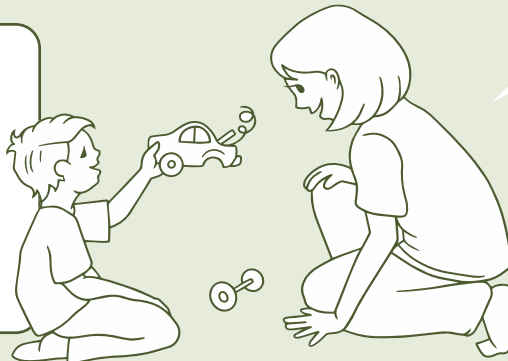
*Oh! The wheels  
came off.*

*We need a mechanic.  
Let's go to the garage.*



**Children between 2-3 years**  
benefit from hearing  
a wide range of words, including  
words that are not part of their  
everyday routine  
= **QUALITY**

**Children between 3-4 years**  
need to hear vocabulary  
in conversations about  
things that have happened  
or will happen  
= **CONTEXT**



*Remember when  
our car broke down?*

*We called the tow  
truck. The engine  
needed repairs.*

Even though quantity is important (we want parents to talk to their children) don't forget that quality becomes more important for children 2-4 years old. Using a variety of words and using these words when talking about different events will further help your child's vocabulary grow.