

## 15 MONTHS TO 18 MONTHS

### BABIES THRIVE WHEN PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS...



# HOW I COMMUNICATE

I'm ready to touch, taste, smell, see, and hear everything around me! You are my first and best teacher! Spending time with you and having positive experiences helps us grow closer and gets my brain ready for learning. By 18 months, I can move around more and use simple words. I love to play and explore! I'm starting to show my independence and find new ways to tell you what I need.

# WHAT I NEED TO THRIVE

At 18 months, your child is learning more words every month and often repeats the last or most important word you say. They've probably also learned to say "no" and may shake their head when they say it.

Asking your child questions helps them learn that their thoughts, feelings, and opinions matter. It also teaches them to use words to express themselves and gives them a voice.

There are two types of questions: close-ended and open-ended. Close-ended questions need only 1-2 words to answer, like "Do you want some yogurt?" or "What sound does a dog make?" Open-ended questions let kids think and give longer answers, like "Why do you think Sammy is sad?" or "What do you think the fish is thinking?"

You can also help your child by encouraging them to use words when they want something. If they point at yogurt, you could say, "Do you want yogurt? Can you say yogurt?" They may not get it right away, but they'll improve with practice.

# 15 – 18 MONTHS RESOURCES



These Sesame Workshop resources will help your child learn language.



**LEARNING THE FIVE SENSES** - Young children are naturally curious about the world around them. They touch, feel, see, hear, and taste. Paying attention to what their senses are telling them can spark interaction and teach new words. This can happen anywhere—riding on the bus, walking past a restaurant, while preparing dinner—just about every time and place holds an opportunity for developing language! To read more, scan this QR code or visit:

<https://sesameworkshop.org/resources/language-learning-five-senses/>

**TALKING IS TEACHING STORYBOOK** - This is an interactive storybook for parents/caregivers and children to read together. Not recommended for children under the age of 3 to use for solo play. Please note: We recommend that you disable the audio and read to your child. To get started, scan this QR code or visit: <https://sesameworkshop.org/resources/talking-teaching-storybook/>



**LOOKING AT BOOKS** - This instructional video is for parents & caregivers about reading books. Sharing books (from day one!) can be a special time to bond, expose kids to new words and stories, and understand their interests and personalities. To get started, scan this QR code or visit: <https://sesameworkshop.org/resources/looking-at-books/>