

Steps 3,4 & 5: Using words to indicate variety of objects, people and actions

- Begin with few most familiar objects, e.g., a chair and tell the child this is a chair, sit on this chair, etc.
- Use these words repeatedly in variety of situations.
- Select activities like running, sitting, standing, etc. and tell the child that 'he is running', he is standing and so on. Then tell the child to run and when the child responds praise him.



- Once the child is familiar with common objects and actions, select few objects whose names are easier to say. Preferably words starting with Pa, Ba, Ma sounds could be selected because the lip movements for these words can be seen easily.
- Place these familiar objects in front of the child. Pick up one item, e.g., a ball and ask the child what is this? Repeat the question if needed. Help him to say the word 'ball'.
- You can sit in front of the mirror along with the child to help him to control his lip and tongue movements.



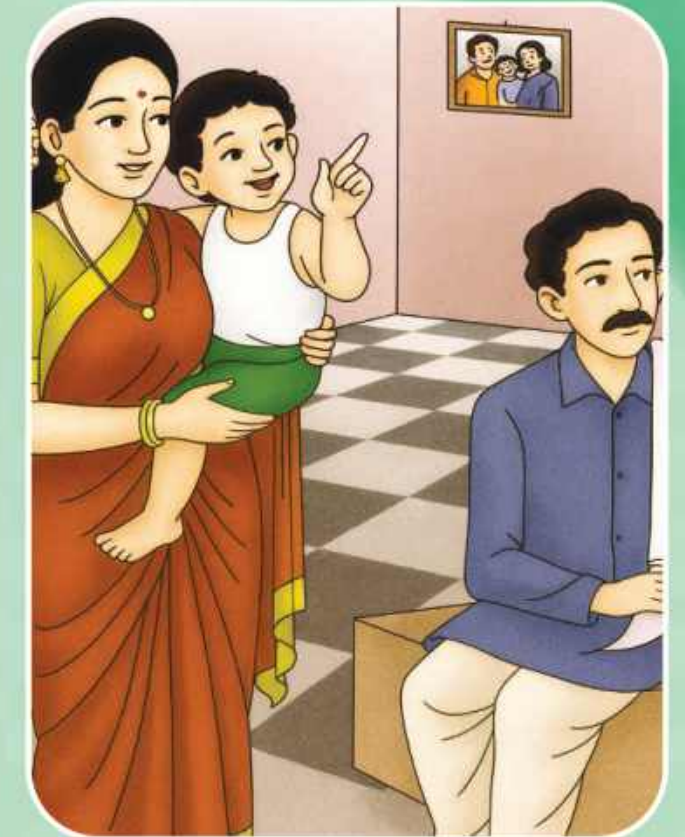
- Praise the child even if he says it partially correct.
- Once the child learns to say these familiar words, continue teaching him new words.
- Do not insist on correct pronunciation of the words initially.
- Similarly you can teach the child to name different activities like running, sitting, etc.



- To begin with you can help the child to say these words and gradually reduce your help and allow him to say on his own.
- provide him with new situations so that he learn new words.

Remember: Always encourage the child's attempt at naming.

SAYING SIMPLE WORDS



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INTRODUCTION

A child who starts using simple meaningful words has taken a great step towards communication with others. He moves from the stage of pointing to naming objects. Typically, a child will start saying the names which are most familiar to him in his surroundings such as, parents, objects associated with the child and objects in the room. The child who names the objects/people for the first time may continue to do so, if encouraged repeatedly.

CHECK WHAT YOUR CHILD CAN DO NOW

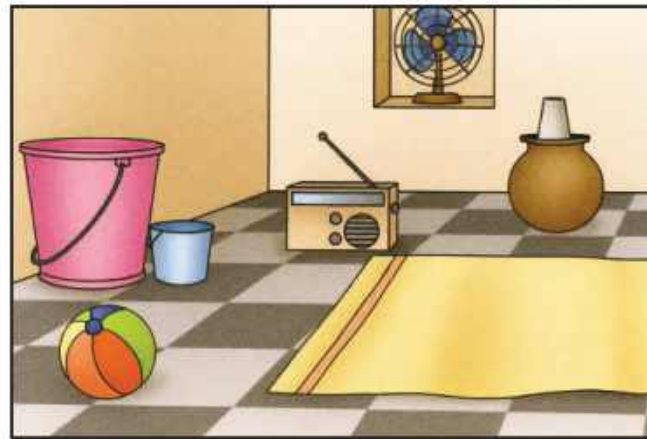
Follow the steps given below:

1. Can he point to common objects in the house when named e.g., light, fan, mat, chair, box, radio? YES / NO
2. Can he locate the parents when asked, e.g., If you give a plate and ask the child to give it to the mother can he do it? YES / NO
3. Can he use the same words to indicate different things e.g., says ball to indicate anything which is looking round? YES / NO
4. Can he use different words to indicate objects, people and actions? YES / NO
5. Can he pick up new words on his own? YES / NO

HELP YOUR CHILD TO SAY SIMPLE WORDS

Step 1: Pointing to common objects

- Select appropriate and attractive items like, rolling ball, turning fan, and other colourful objects.



- Draw the child's attention to one object at a time, e.g., to look at the ball.
- As the child is looking at the ball tell him that he is watching a ball. Now cover the ball with towel and ask him to watch for the ball while you remove the towel.



- Once the child is able to look at the ball lift his hand, point to the ball and say, 'that is a ball'
- Gradually reduce your help in lifting your child's hand and pointing to the objects so that the child learns to point on his own.



- Repeat similar games for other common items.
- Involve others in the family.

Do not forget to encourage and praise the child even if a half attempt is made.

Step 2: Pointing to the parents when asked

- Whenever the mother gives something (e.g. milk, toy) to the child say "mamma is giving you ____ (milk, toy)".
- When the father comes into the house tell the child "pappa is coming".



- Similar situations involving parents may be described using appropriate words.
- Now help the child to point to "mamma" and "pappa" when asked. Each time the child points correctly, encourage by kissing, hugging, saying "good", etc.
- You can use games like 'hide and seek' to help the child to associate words "mamma" and "pappa" to appropriate persons.
- Similarly you can teach the child to locate other family members.
- Objects and items related to parents and other family can also be used to help the child in locating the persons in the family, by asking him whose _____ is this?



Provide sufficient number of opportunities to learn.