

# House

Talking activities with toys



## Talk about what you and your child are doing

As a parent or caregiver, you play an important role in your child's language learning. Turn playtime with toys into back-and-forth interactions and help your child build their language. When playing together, talk about what you and your child are doing. Try these activities in your language.



### With your toddler

- Playing house is a great way to learn about pretending. You can use a toy house, box, or bookcase with figurines. Talk about the items and people in the house like the bed, bathtub, mom, grandpa, and dog. Use these words over and over when you're playing together.
- Talk in short sentences like, "Mom is sleeping," "That's daddy's chair," or "It's time for a bath."



### With your preschooler

- Join in and pretend together. Pick a toy person and pretend to be that person. It's fun for your child to pretend to be the mommy or daddy while you pretend to be the child. Follow their lead. Let them tell you what's happening and where you need to go.
- Pretend to do the things you do at home. Talk about all the things you do before you go to bed, go to work, or go to school. Pretend to go to the store, the park, or grandma's house. Take turns asking and answering questions about what you're doing and what could happen next.

These ideas can be used with other pretend play activities like doctor, restaurant, or grocery store.

Another way to learn about the house is to let your child help with small chores. Depending on their age, they can help put away laundry or make a bed. They can copy when you wipe a table or sweep the floor.



### Where to get help

Speech-language pathologists can help. Learn more at [ahs.ca/pedrehab](https://ahs.ca/pedrehab).



For more information scan this QR code or visit: [ahs.ca/talkbox](https://ahs.ca/talkbox)



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