

Puzzles

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

- Let your child dump out all the puzzle pieces. Say, "All out" or "The pieces are out." Help them put the pieces in and name the pictures. Like, "The horse is in." or "Put the car in." Use other words to talk about it. Say, "A fast plane" or "The plane is up high."
- Give your child a choice between two pieces. Ask, "Do you want the horse or cow?" Show the pieces and wait for them to point, look at it, or try to say the word. No matter how they respond, give the child the puzzle piece and name it.



With your preschooler

- Do the puzzle together. Take turns putting pieces in. Say, "I'm going to put the teddy bear in. What are you putting in?"
- As you try harder puzzles, show your child how to find the right spot for the piece. Talk about matching colours, shapes, sizes, and the picture on the piece. When the puzzle is all put together, talk about what you see in the picture. If the puzzle has characters, talk about what they might be thinking and feeling.



Where to get help

Speech-language pathologists can help. Learn more at ahs.ca/pedrehab.

These ideas can also be used with other toys like shape sorters.



For more information scan this QR code or visit: ahs.ca/talkbox

