Helping Children Understand Language

1. Talk to infants and toddlers about the meals they are eating.

2. Point out and describe features of the toys children are playing with to all infants and toddlers.

3. Talk about the steps of the diapering process and engage in verbal play during the diaper change.

4. Talk playfully as the child is being bottle fed.

5. Talk about the events from the day.

6. Talk about and express interest in the art work children do.

7. Lift a child up to see the hanging displays and to talk about how it moves and what it looks like and what it does.

8. Communication is to be personalized and relate to immediate situation and at the right level to be understood by the child.

9. Staff is to use simple and descriptive words when playing with the children. “A hat. You put on the hat. I am wearing a hat, too!”

10. Staff is to use a wide range of simple and exact words to describe children’s experiences as they engage in play and observe the world around them.

11. Staff and children enjoy verbal play such as imitating sounds, singing songs, rhyming words and repeating rhymes.