

Talk, Talk, Talk

Obj. 9b, 10a, 10b

As babies reach the age of five to six months, before they understand words, they respond to many visual cues. Talk to your baby, and always tell her what you are going to do before you do it. Say to her, "I am going to pick you up." Then stretch out your arms to offer a visual cue. Tell the baby things in advance: "I'm going to put you down." "I'm going to change your diaper." "I'm going to give you a kiss." After you have done this for a while, instead of saying an entire sentence, just say one word: "up," "down," and so forth. Your baby will soon respond to your cues. If you hold out your arms and say the word "up" each time you are going to pick your baby up, she will soon stretch out her arms when she sees your arms stretched out. This activity focuses on language development.