

DOMAIN 5: COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE, AND LITERACY**SUB-DOMAIN: LANGUAGE****VOCABULARY****GOAL 52: CHILDREN USE EXPRESSIVE VOCABULARY.**

Age Range	Developmental Growth	Child Indicators	Caregiver Strategies
16 to 38 Months	Uses words and simple phrases with intent.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increasingly uses words and phrases. ▪ May exhibit a period of silence when learning a second language. ▪ Shows rapid increase in expressive vocabulary (1,000 words by 36 months) can understand more words than says. ▪ Initiates gestures. ▪ Initiates communication. ▪ May ask "wh" questions (why and what). ▪ Asks others to label unfamiliar objects. ▪ Starts to use short sentences. ▪ Uses personal pronouns (i.e. "Me do it."). ▪ Pronounces words with increasing articulation and clarity. ▪ Uses attributes (descriptive words - big boy, red ball). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Encourage, expect, and wait for a child to use words to express needs and wants. ▪ When replying to child's attempts to communicate, confirm his or her intentions and then extend the topic. ▪ Offer exposure to vocabulary by talking, signing, singing, and reading to the child. ▪ Respond to child's single words using sentences with descriptive responses (e.g. child says, "Ball," you respond, "Here is the red ball."). ▪ Model simple sentences. ▪ Encourage use of pronouns from child's point of view (i.e. "I want milk," rather than, "Susie wants milk."). ▪ Avoid baby talk. Use correct pronunciation and grammar. ▪ When child is attempting to communicate verbally, assume he or she has something important to say, and listen carefully. Try to understand the meaning before you respond. ▪ For an English Language Learner (ELL), learn and use key words in child's home language including "signs," if appropriate. ▪ Explain meanings of words to child during conversations.