

**DOMAIN 5: COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE, AND LITERACY****SUB-DOMAIN: LANGUAGE****COMPREHENSION****GOAL 54: CHILDREN DEMONSTRATE COMPREHENSION AND MEANING IN LANGUAGE.**

Age Range	Developmental Growth	Child Indicators	Caregiver Strategies
<b>16 to 38 Months</b>	Recognizes and responds to more complex concepts and meaning in language.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Responds and acts on a familiar object when named.</li> <li>▪ Follows direction, moving from one step to two steps or three steps within a routine.</li> <li>▪ Quickly gains the meaning of new words and uses those words in actions.</li> <li>▪ Responds to simple descriptors (Watch out, hot! Keep away from the hill side. Danger.).</li> <li>▪ Begins to use size concepts, rote counting, and family members' names.</li> <li>▪ Responds to yes/no questions.</li> <li>▪ Responds to some location phrases.</li> <li>▪ Recognizes and responds appropriately to nonverbal cues (may stop or say "no, no" when adult shakes head in disapproval).</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Talk, sign, sing, and read to child.</li> <li>▪ Read colorful books to child.</li> <li>▪ Indicate to child that you comprehend what he/she is saying, gesturing, and expressing.</li> <li>▪ Use expanded repetitive language.</li> <li>▪ Use a sentence length slightly longer than the child's when interacting and conversing.</li> <li>▪ Add information to what the child says.</li> <li>▪ Ask real questions and answer questions with genuine answers. Be conversational, rather than directive.</li> <li>▪ Play word games (show me . . . , look in the mirror, animal sounds).</li> <li>▪ Engage in conversations with child about things seen or experienced in familiar environments.</li> <li>▪ Recite nursery rhymes and finger plays.</li> <li>▪ Talk about what things do.</li> <li>▪ Read and repeat a story often, including stories from diverse cultures and then engage child in conversation about it.</li> </ul>