

DOMAIN 5: COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE, AND LITERACY**SUB-DOMAIN: COMMUNICATION****ORAL COMMUNICATION****GOAL 49: CHILDREN COMMUNICATE EFFECTIVELY.**

Age Range	Developmental Growth	Child Indicators	Caregiver Strategies
6 to 18 Months	Uses structured sounds, words, and gestures to interact with others.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Imitates sounds, signs, or gestures. ▪ Engages in vocal play and turn-taking. ▪ Uses facial expression, tone, and words to match responses. ▪ Looks to the caregiver for a visual cue about how to react to an activity or situation (social referencing). ▪ Approximates word sounds in an attempt to say words common to their culture. ▪ Babbles using inflection, intonation, and tone to convey meaning. ▪ Uses a single word or sound to convey a variety of objects or actions (e.g. "ba" can mean ball or anything round; "up" conveys being lifting or something high). ▪ Uses single-word sentences. ▪ Initiates and responds to communicate using words, signs, and gestures. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Repeat the child's utterances. ▪ Use simple word play with turn-taking (e.g. baby says, "Ah, ah, ah," and you say, "Ah, ah, ah.>"). ▪ During daily routines, name body parts, familiar objects, situations, and events. ▪ Describe daily routines and ask questions ("I'm changing your diaper. Do you want to hold the clean one?" "Do you want to hold your cup? I can help.>"). ▪ Respond with words and gestures when child looks for approval, encouragement, or support. Encourage child to sing with you and to join in the music with body movements such as swaying and clapping. ▪ Use descriptive talk (describe what child sees and what the child is doing). ▪ Clarify and repeat word or phrases to show understanding of their vocalizations ("Up" "Do you want me to pick you up?" "Go," "Do you want to go in the stroller?"). ▪ Respond verbally and in actions to the child's requests, even when keeping a boundary ("No, we can't go outside right now. Do you want to go out after lunch?").