

**DOMAIN 5: COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE, AND LITERACY****SUB-DOMAIN: LANGUAGE****GRAMMAR AND SYNTAX****GOAL 53: CHILDREN DEMONSTRATE PROGRESSION IN GRAMMAR AND SYNTAX.**

Age Range	Developmental Growth	Child Indicators	Caregiver Strategies
<b>60 Months through Kindergarten</b>	Uses most conventions in language form and structure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Uses lengthened and complex sentences.</li> <li>▪ Uses multiple sentences to communicate experiences and tell a story. Expresses different tenses.</li> <li>▪ Demonstrates beginning skills in using sentences in a logical sequence.</li> <li>▪ Uses sentences (in child's home language) that show an emergence of grammatical correctness with subject/verb agreement.</li> <li>▪ Gradually generalizes using correct, accepted grammar.</li> <li>▪ Continues to add grammatical morphemes (smallest grammatical unit) in a regular order (e.g. sad is a word but adding the morpheme, "ness" changes the word to "sadness," or the word "jump," becomes "jumped" when one adds the morpheme, "ed.")</li> <li>▪ Gradually produces complex grammatical structures, adding adjectives, adverbs, and phrases to the basic verb/noun sentence.</li> <li>▪ Uses mostly appropriate verb-tenses for present, past, future with regular verbs and some irregular verbs.</li> <li>▪ Begins to notice when simple sentences do not make sense. Uses descriptive words when speaking ("very, very, very HUGE bear").</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Use mealtimes as an occasion to encourage child to talk about the events of the day and things of interest.</li> <li>▪ Model correct grammar in your responses when child experiments with grammar.</li> <li>▪ Provide opportunities for child to figure out and say the correct phrase, through a game like, "Which is Correct?" (e.g. "Which is correct? - 'The bird blue big flew the nest a round' or, 'The big blue bird flew around the nest?'").</li> <li>▪ Respond to child's stories and descriptions of events.</li> <li>▪ Show value for regional variations of language; compare similarities and differences between languages, including academic school English.</li> <li>▪ Encourage child to use prepositional phrases in answer to questions (e.g. "Where are your shoes?" "They are under the bed.&gt;").</li> <li>▪ Engage child in motor activities in which they demonstrate relationships to objects in the environment. Describe what they are doing (e.g. "Crawl under the table." "Walk around the tree." "Crawl in the box." "Crawl out of the box.&gt;").</li> <li>▪ Encourage child to respond to questions in complete sentences by modeling complete sentences.</li> <li>▪ Offer unfamiliar props for dramatic play areas to encourage discussion among the children.</li> </ul>