

DOMAIN 5: COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE, AND LITERACY			
SUB-DOMAIN: COMMUNICATION			
ORAL COMMUNICATION			
GOAL 49: CHILDREN COMMUNICATE EFFECTIVELY.			
Age Range	Developmental Growth	Child Indicators	Caregiver Strategies
Birth through 8 Months	Displays intentional and unintentional facial expressions, cries, smiles, babbles using repetitious syllables, and uses simple gestures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Responds to the physical environment (i.e. smiles, cries, grimaces, and moves body).</li> <li>▪ Makes eye contact and directs sounds to caregiver.</li> <li>▪ Moves from random vocal play to intentional self-repeating vocal play.</li> <li>▪ Experiments with making a range of sounds with variations of pitch, loudness, and trills. Use varying volume and pitch.</li> <li>▪ Imitates sounds, signs, expressions, and gestures.</li> <li>▪ Engages with people in give and take of sounds and eye contact.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Repeat baby's sounds taking cues from baby about how often, how quickly, and for how long.</li> <li>▪ Watch for baby's attempts to communicate and offer appropriate responses.</li> <li>▪ Respond to baby's crying and interpret baby's signals.</li> <li>▪ When speaking, vary inflection, volume, and tone.</li> <li>▪ Get excited when your baby makes sounds and eye contact with you; pay attention and smile or react with exaggerated appropriate facial and body expressions.</li> <li>▪ Match your facial expressions with the baby's expressions.</li> <li>▪ Recognize and become informed when a baby with physical disabilities, such as a cleft palate, might need more assistance in learning to communicate.</li> <li>▪ Interpret and give meaning to what your child says—may be a gesture to start with (e.g. "You are looking at the bottle. Do you want your bottle?" "You are reaching for the cup. Do you want the cup?").</li> </ul>