

POINTING AND NAMING



Why this is important

You can guide your child's attention by pointing to objects he may not notice. Pointing and gesturing helps him begin to understand direction. Starting now and continuing throughout his life, body language and pointing will help him communicate.

What you do

- Point out interesting and useful objects during the time you spend with your child. For example, when he is looking for his toy truck, point to the truck and say *Truck. There is your truck.* Wait to see if he notices the truck before you walk over and touch it to get his attention.
- Show him everyday objects outside his home such as birds at a birdfeeder or cars driving by. Point to high clouds, airplanes, or blowing leaves. Point to faraway lights, signs, or people walking.
- Always name the objects as you point to them. If your child makes any attempt to point, smile and talk about what he sees. *Kitty. You're showing me the kitty!*