



## Did you know...



Building your child's vocabulary is one of the most important skills you can develop to help them be successful when they get to school. You are building vocabulary as you sing with them, play games like "peek-a-boo", and point out print on food containers.

### Language Milestones- Birth to 3 years old

0-6 months	Back and forth noises
4-12 months	Babbling, tries to repeat sounds
6-15 months	Imitating, uses 1-2 words
10-18 months	First words, meaningful gestures, uses 4-6 words
15-24 months	Putting words together
24-36 months	Makes 3 word sentences, uses 250-900 words

## Here's how...

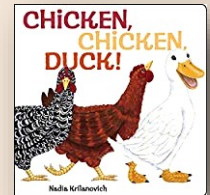


- ✦ Hearing language on TV is not as effective for building vocabulary as talking directly with your child. Dressing and feeding your child are great opportunities for talking with them.
- ✦ Talk with your children in the language you speak at home. If they build a vocabulary of words in their home language, it will help them to build a vocabulary of words in English as they get older.
- ✦ Look for books that teach concepts such as numbers, colors, shapes, opposites, etc. These are things your child should know before they begin kindergarten (see *Choosing Books*).

## Read



### "Chicken, Chicken, Duck!" by Nadia Krilanovich



Duck and his barnyard friends are up to something. One by one we meet them, and then hear their familiar sounds. But that Duck always has the last **QUACK!** Young readers will delight in making the animal sounds, noticing the funny expressions, and picking out surprising details in the illustrations.

Also by the author:



## Choosing Books



### More "concept" books...

- "Same and Different" by National Geographic
- "Blue Hat, Green Hat" by Sandra Boynton
- "Big Fat Hen" by Keith Baker
- "Counting Kisses" by Karen Katz
- "Quite, Loud" by Leslie Patricelli
- "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" by Eric Carle
- "Ten Black Dots" by Donald Crews
- "Colors" by Roger Priddy
- "Ten Little Fingers and Ten Little Toes" by Mem Fox





As you're looking at books, talk about how two pictures are alike and different. Faces: "Both faces have noses, but one baby is smiling and the other is frowning."

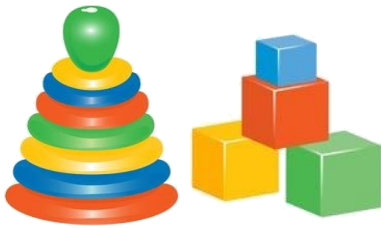
Animals: Both animals have tails, but the horse has a mane and the cow does not. This chicken is black and white, and this chicken is red."

## Ready to Write



**Stacking:** For young children, picking items up and putting them in place helps them learn the important skill of grasp and release, as well as how to control and position their fingers. Stacking/nesting also helps with depth perception, hand-eye coordination, and understanding where their body is in space.

Help your child stack blocks, bowls, books, boxes, food containers, plastic cups, sponges.



## Play



### Fingerplay: Little Chickens

1, then 2, then 3, then 4  
(hold up your fingers, one at a time)

Chickens came to my door,  
(wiggle your fingers)

Looked at me and said, "Good day,"  
(Bend all 4 fingers on GOOD,  
extend them on DAY)

Then they all tiptoed away.  
(Walk your fingers across your chest  
and over your left shoulder)



### Barnyard Song

*Sung to: If You're Happy and You Know It*

If you're a chicken and you know it  
say, "cluck cluck."

If you're a chicken and you know it  
say, "cluck cluck."

If you're a chicken and you know it,  
then you really ought to show it.

If you're a chicken and you know it  
say, "cluck cluck."

*Repeat with:*

Pig: "oink, oink"

Cow: "moo, moo"

Sheep: "baa, baa"



Hear tune: [www.thelearninggroove.com/if-youre-happy-and-you-know-it](http://www.thelearninggroove.com/if-youre-happy-and-you-know-it)

## At your library...



Your library, in cooperation with the Idaho Commission for Libraries, now offers free "storytimes online" every day of the year. Each day features an online book to read with your child, as well as songs, rhymes, fingerplays, videos, crafts, and other activities that you can access from a computer or Smartphone.

**DayByDayID.org**  
STORYTIMES ONLINE