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May 2012 Activity Sheet

10 Fridge Tips for Helping Your Young Child's Language Development:

1. Try to be face-to-face when talking to your child.
2. Give him time to listen, process and speak, and avoid interrupting.
3. When he makes mistakes with words or sounds, repeat back correctly after him as part of your reply.
4. Keep your sentences simple and straightforward.
5. Set aside at least 10 minutes per day to sit with him, uninterrupted, to play his choice of game.
6. Switch off background noise, e.g. the TV, radio etc. when you're not actively listening to it.
7. Have a bedtime routine that includes looking at/reading a book together.
8. Involve your child as much as possible in your daily routine activities, e.g. sorting the laundry, getting meals ready.
9. Give positive instructions rather than negative - e.g. "Hold my hand!" rather than "Don't run off".
10. Emphasise the Positive! Praise your child for good listening, good playing, good helping etc.