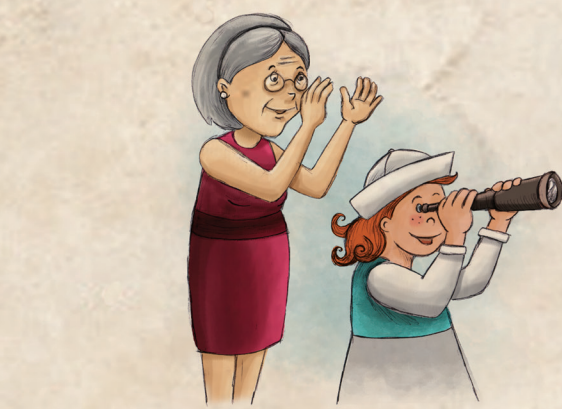




**YOU SET THE EXAMPLE (BY REITERATING)**

When a child does not pronounce a word correctly, set a good example by emphasizing the correct pronunciation (without asking them to repeat it).



**USE THEIR INTERESTS AS A TOOL TO COMMUNICATE**

Follow the child's initiative. Play games that they enjoy and talk about what interests them.

**STRATEGIES**

**TO ENCOURAGE LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT**



**GET DOWN TO THEIR EYE LEVEL**

When speaking to a child, make sure they're looking at you by getting down to their eye level.

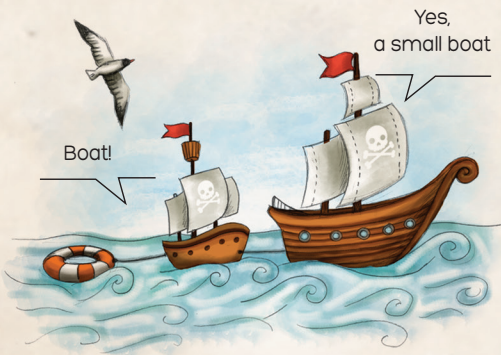
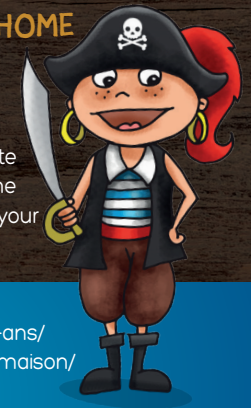


Illustration & graphic design: Irène Lumineau

DOWNLOAD THE GAME FOR FREE  
**TREASURES FOUND IN MY HOME**

Designed for children (2 to 5 years old) and their parents to have fun while playing in a different way, you will quickly see how easy it is to stimulate language skills on a daily basis. Follow the rules of the game using items found in your home, or let your imagination run wild.

<https://naitreetgrandir.com/fr/etape/3-5-ans/fiches-activites/jeux/les-tresors-de-ma-maison/>



**LENGTHEN SENTENCES**

When a child speaks to you, repeat what they said and add a word or a piece of information to the sentence, getting down to their level.



**OFFER A CHOICE OF ANSWERS**

When a child isn't using the right word or answering a question correctly, give them a choice of alternate answers.



**STRATEGIES AND STAGES FOR LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT**

AN ORIGINAL PRIORITÉ ENFANTS LOTBINIÈRE PROJECT

STAGES OF LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT  
**FROM BIRTH TO 1 YEAR**

**0-7 MONTHS**

- The child babbles and makes sounds.
- They smile and look at the person talking to them.

**8-11 MONTHS**

- They turn around when you say their name.
- They point at what interests them or at what they want.
- Around the age of 1 year, they begin to say their first words.
- They use gestures to make themselves understood.

**IT IS ADVISED TO SEEK GUIDANCE WHEN...**

**AROUND 10 MONTHS - 1 YEAR**

- The child doesn't turn when their name is spoken.
- The child does not babble.
- The child does not point.
- You are concerned.



**IDEAS AND SUGGESTIONS**

**0-7 MONTHS**

- Talk to your baby often while feeding, bathing, changing their diaper, walking, etc.
- Have fun repeating the sounds your baby makes while encouraging them often to make new ones.

**8-11 MONTHS:**

- Name what your baby sees and touches (things, people, places).
- Show your child pictures of animals and encourage them to imitate the different sounds they make.
- Sing the same songs and short rhymes often.

STAGES OF LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT  
**2 YEARS**

- The child starts using 2-3 word sentences and asks questions. Example: "What's that?"
- The child begins to initiate conversation.
- They understand more than 2 instructions. Example: "Wash your hands and come eat."

**IT IS ADVISED TO SEEK GUIDANCE WHEN...**

- The child does not understand new instructions. They do not understand simple questions. Example: where?, who?
- The child has a vocabulary of less than 50 words.
- The child does not combine words.
- You are concerned.



**IDEAS AND SUGGESTIONS**

- Look at pictures with your child, asking them to point out objects, people, images.
- Read to your child daily as this will help them learn new words.
- Describe what you are doing. Example: In the grocery store, place your child in front of you, describe your actions, name the foods and let them smell the different odours.
- Use real words to identify objects to help your child expand their vocabulary.
- Listen to music, dance, and sing along with your child.

STAGES OF LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT  
**3 YEARS**

- The child is easily understood by those around them.
- They start to answer questions that begin with: Why...?
- The child makes short complete sentences. Example: "My shirt is wet."
- They can keep easy conversations going.

**IT IS ADVISED TO SEEK GUIDANCE WHEN...**

- They often use words like this and there or often seem to search for their words.
- They only understand the instructions and games that they know by heart.
- Family members do not understand the child



**IDEAS AND SUGGESTIONS**

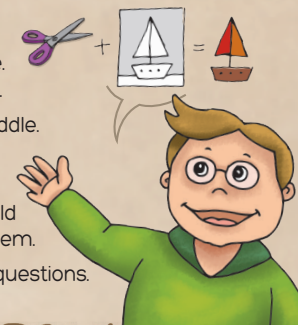
- Take advantage of meal times to talk to your child:
- Make a game of asking your child what they want by offering them choices;
- Set the example by rephrasing their words or sentences when what they are saying is unclear without putting pressure on them to repeat themselves;
- Ask for their help with cooking as well as serving meals, and describe what you're doing. Example: "I'm stirring the soup, putting the plates out, etc."
- Make reading part of your routine:
- Tell the same story often, your child will want to tell parts of their favourite story;
- Go to the library with your child and let them choose a book.

STAGES OF LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT  
**4 YEARS**

- The child makes longer sentences. Example: "At daycare, I made a boat with my friends."
- They respond to questions that begin with: How ...?
- They can explain a game or the flow of a routine in a simple way.

**IT IS ADVISED TO SEEK GUIDANCE WHEN...**

- The child does not understand the concepts of space and time. Example: on, under, before, after.
- They cannot answer a simple riddle. Example: "What kind of animal lives in a kennel and barks?"
- People that do not know the child have difficulty understanding them.
- They have difficulty answering questions.



**IDEAS AND SUGGESTIONS**

- Encourage your child to talk on the phone with their friends or grandparents.
- Play matching games with colours and shapes.
- While reading a book...
  - Point at the words and slide your finger from left to right as this will help your child understand that there is meaning when reading;
  - Let your child guess the end of the story;
  - Allow your child to ask questions.
- Speak about and name the emotions. Example: Play in front of a mirror with your child and make "angry" or "happy" faces with them.

STAGES OF LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT  
**5 YEARS**

- The child can create a riddle without help.
- They use the right words to express time. Example: then, after, yesterday, etc.
- They respond to questions that begin with: When...?
- They can receive and convey a message.

**IT IS ADVISED TO SEEK GUIDANCE WHEN...**

- The child has difficulty with pronunciation and strangers sometimes don't understand them.
- It is difficult to have a conversation with the child. You often have to ask questions and ask for an explanation to fully understand what they're saying.
- Their sentences are always short (5-6 words or less).



**IDEAS AND SUGGESTIONS**

- Encourage your child to talk on the phone with their friends or grandparents.
- Play matching games with colours and shapes.
- While reading a book...
  - Point at the words and slide your finger from left to right as this will help your child understand that there is meaning when reading;
  - Let your child guess the end of the story;
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