Point Out Sound

Help your baby build connections and grow their brain for listening and spoken language. Providing meaningful listening and talking experiences every day can grow your baby’s future.

GOOD TO KNOW

There are so many new sounds to hear and explore outside of your home. But the sounds outside may be harder for your baby to hear because they may be farther away, softer, or muffled by the wind, which can make listening more difficult for a new listener.

Your baby needs your help when listening to those sounds. Calling attention to the sound helps them learn outside sounds, which are important for your baby to notice. When you’re outside, call attention to the sounds, point them out, walk closer to the sounds (if possible), and name the sounds for your baby.

TRY

For example, when outside on a walk:

If dogs are barking, point to your ear and say “Listen! I hear the dog!” Pause, and then imitate the sound. Say “Woof-Woof! The dog is barking. He wants to play.”

Pause and wait for your bay to notice the dog and respond.

Repeat: “Woof-Woof! I hear the dog.”

If your baby responds, take another turn and continue talking about the object and sound.

OBSERVE

Did your baby search for the sound or point to their ear? Did they turn to the sound? Did your baby try to make sounds when you talked about them?

REMEMBER

Your baby needs you to point out and label the sounds outside of your home. This helps them learn to link sounds with words.

Over time, your baby will match the sounds they hear with the objects around them and will even start trying to imitate the sounds!