

The Grade R child – a physical, emotional, social and cognitive profile

PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN ARE LEARNING TO COMMUNICATE EFFECTIVELY AND ARE ABLE TO USE LANGUAGE TO EXPRESS THEMSELVES

(Development areas: SOCIAL and COGNITIVE)

Most children are born with the ability to speak. A child who receives a firm grounding in her mother tongue is better able to learn new languages and concepts. Adults should speak, sing, read and listen to young children as they learn to speak and listen, and later to read and write.

PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN LISTEN, UNDERSTAND AND RESPOND TO OTHERS

For example, they:

- Talk in complete sentences.
- Take turns in conversations.
- Can be understood even by those not familiar with them.

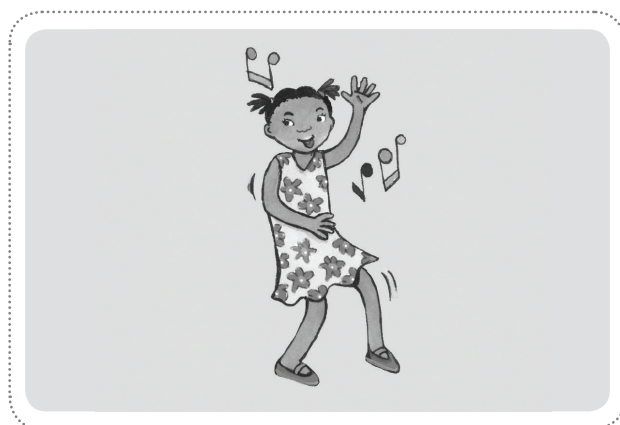
What you can do to develop your Grade Rs' communication skills:

- Include them in conversations whenever possible.
- Encourage them to experiment with new words.

PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN ENJOY
AND RESPOND TO STORIES, SONGS
AND RHYMES

For example, they:

- Tell stories with a mixture of fact and fantasy.
- Enjoy jokes.
- Sing familiar rhymes and songs correctly.
- Can illustrate stories through simple drawings or acting.



What you can do to develop your Grade Rs' ability to communicate, tell stories and express themselves:

- Talk to your learners about what they are doing.
- Encourage them to recall events, prompting when necessary.
- Tell stories about events in the child's past.
- Read and tell a variety of stories of familiar and unfamiliar events.
- Encourage your learners to draw events from their day or from a story they have heard.