



## Vocabulary as a Reading Indicator

A young child's language and vocabulary is one of the strongest predictors of their success as a reader. For that reason, we need to work to build a large vocabulary in our youngest children. This may seem like a daunting or pricey task, but it doesn't have to be. Two simple and free ways to improve your children's vocabulary is to:

- Talk with them
- Read with them

As you're cooking dinner talk with your children about ingredients. Label everything, even if it seems like a difficult word. Explain to your children that a colander is sometimes called a strainer. If you speak multiple languages, provide children with the name of common items in both languages.

Even our youngest children enjoy books. You don't have to read every word. Make up your own story or just point and name pictures.

## LIBRARY TIME

We have free Little Libraries all over Baytown, in addition to Sterling Municipal Library. Make it a habit to visit a library to pick out new books. Allow children to choose books that interest them.

## WORD GAMES

### Play I Spy

Give children clues and have them guess what you're looking at. Give children a chance to be the spy, too.

Example: I spy something round. It is orange. Child notices a basketball.

