

SPEECH AND LANGUAGE

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Labeling

In our last newsletter we discussed the language processing hierarchy. The simplest level of language processing is labeling. Labeling is the ability to attach an expressive label to an item. It also measures word retrieval. This level of processing generally develops during the preschool years. Naming common objects and actions, and providing synonyms and antonyms are all examples of labeling.

Suggestions to increase your child's ability to label:

- Talk about the things you see and the things you are doing with your child.
- When your child uses words, expand that by providing other options. (Ex. "I like this **present**." "I'm glad you enjoyed the **gift**.")
- Provide your child with experiences to learn new words. (Visit museums, zoos, etc.)
- Read to your child and discuss the stories.

As we age, we continually increase our knowledge base. Learning vocabulary and labeling is a life long process.