Talking
To your child teaches them the richness of language.

Singing
Is a natural way to teach children about words.

Reading
Is the single most important way to help your child get ready to read.

Writing
Is reading put into action. Children learn important skills by writing and drawing.

Playing
Teaches children how to think, imagine, and express themselves.
Talking

- Narrate your day. Talk about where you go and what you are doing.
- Ask questions and give your child enough time to respond.
- Repeat what your child says and add new words to expand her vocabulary.

Singing

- Sing the alphabet song with different melodies.
- Sing a song slowly, then quickly, and then use a silly voice.
- Make a simple musical instrument by filling a paper bag with rice and use it while singing with your child.

Reading

- Go to a “hiding place” at nightfall, and read a book using a flashlight.
- Tell stories in new ways. Sing them, draw them, use puppets, etc.
- Maintain a notebook of new words you encounter while reading. Write and talk about your new words.

Writing

- On a warm day, “paint” with water on the sidewalk.
- Talk with your child about what he is drawing and writing.
- When your child shows you her “signature” (scribbles), ask her to read them to you.

Playing

- Dress up like someone from your child’s favorite book.
- Make up “nonsense” words that rhyme with real words.
- Make lots of empty boxes and other found objects and act the story out with them.
- Cross over like someone from your child’s favorite book.