Did you know that playing a game can help your child’s language GROW? Playing a game is a great way to have fun with your child and build language at the same time!

Games help your child...
- ask and answer questions
- give and follow directions
- tell stories
- take turns and play fair
- remember things
- learn new words
- describe things
- HAVE FUN!

Here’s a list of fun games that you might be able to find at the toy store, at second hand shops, at garage sales, online, or maybe even at Grandma’s house:

- **Clue Junior**
  5-8 years – Parker Brothers
- **Cranium Cadoo for Juniors**
  7 years and up – Cranium, Inc.
- **Go Fish**
  4 years and up – various companies
- **GooseBumps Story Telling Game**
  7 years and up – Parker Brothers
- **Guess My Name Game**
  6-10 years – Ravensburger
- **Guess Where?**
  6 years and up – Milton Bradley
- **Guess Who?**
  6 years and up – Milton Bradley
- **Hedbanz Junior**
  7-14 years – Pressman Toy Corporation
- **I Spy-Mouse Follies**
  4 years and up – Giftcraft Toys
- **I Spy-Puppy World**
  4 years and up – Giftcraft Toys
- **Loaded Questions Junior**
  8 years and up – All Things Equal, Inc
- **Magnetic Boards/Create a Scene**
  3 years and up – Smithport
- **Mystery Garden**
  4-12 years – Ravensburger
- **Original Memory Game** or variations
  3-6 years – Milton Bradley
- **Outburst Junior**
  7-14 years – Golden Hersch
- **Pictionary Junior**
  7-12 years – Pictionary, Inc.
- **Race to the Roof**
  5-10 years – Ravensburger
- **Scattergories Junior**
  8-11 years – Hasbro
- **Scrabble Junior**
  5 years and up – Hasbro
- **Secret Square**
  4 years and up – University Games
- **Silly Stories**
  4 years and up – Binary Arts
- **Taboo Junior**
  8 years and up – Hasbro
- **Tell a Story**
  4-8 years – Ravensburger
- **Three for Me**
  4 years and up – Patch Products
- **Tri-Bond Kids**
  7-11 years – Patch Products
- **Twenty Questions**
  12 years and up – University Games
- **What’s in Ned’s Head?**
  4 years and up – Fundex Games

Want more information on speech and language? Read the Talk Box Resource List.
Everyday and everyday – GAMES ON THE GO...

Children learn language every single day and in almost everything they do! When you’re on the go, a perfect way to spend time with your child is to play a GAME ON THE GO… Here are some ideas for games that are easy to play, build language, and don’t cost a thing! Remember, play these games in the language you know best.

• **I Spy:** Take turns guessing things that you see. Pick something that you can both see, but don’t say what it is. Give clues until your child guesses what you are describing. For example, if you spy a knife, you might say, “I spy something sharp”, “I spy something long”, or “I spy something that I eat with”.

• **What am I?:** Take turns giving clues to guess objects that you think of. Your descriptions will sound like a riddle! For example, if you are describing a goldfish, you could say, “I’m orange, I swim, and I have fins. What am I?”

• **Chain Game:** Take turns saying words that go together. See how long you can go without breaking the chain! For example, start by saying, “sun”. Your child then adds a word that goes with “sun”, like “summer”. You will need to come up with a word that goes with “summer”. You may end up with a very long chain of words like, “sun”-“summer”-“hot”-“beach”-“sand”-“sandcastle”-“shovel”-“pail”. Keep going until you can’t think of any more words.

• **Twenty Questions:** Take turns thinking of a person, place, or thing. Don’t say what you’re thinking of. The other person asks questions to guess what you’re thinking of. You can only say “yes” or “no” when you answer. You’re only allowed to ask 20 questions to guess what the object is.

• **Simon Says:** Give 1, 2, or 3 directions to your child. Start most of your directions with “Simon says”. For example, say, “Simon says, touch your ear, then jump up.” Your child can only follow the directions that start with “Simon says”. If you don’t say “Simon says” at the beginning of your direction, she shouldn’t do what you say. For example if you say, “Turn around and clap your hands”, your child should do nothing and say, “You didn’t say Simon says!” Take turns being the person who gives the directions.

• **Word Subs:** Say 2 or 3 sentences that are exactly the same except for one word. Ask your child to tell you the word that you changed in the sentences. For example, your three sentences could be, “I folded your shirt and put it into your drawer. I folded you undershirt and put it into your drawer. I ironed your shirt and put it into your drawer.” Your child would then tell you the words you changed were “shirt” and “undershirt”, and “folded” and “ironed”.

• **Telephone Number:** Say a list of 3 to 5 numbers. Say each number, like “3-6-9-4-5”. Don’t say “thirty-six thousand, nine hundred forty-five”. Have your child say the numbers back to you in the right order. As this gets easier for your child, add one more number. Let your child give you a list of numbers to repeat!

• **Throw One Back:** Name 2 or 3 things that belong to the same group or category, and 1 thing that doesn’t belong to that group. Have your child tell you, or throw back the object that doesn’t fit. For example, if you say, “broccoli, celery, hotdog, lettuce”, your child would say, “Hotdog does not belong, because it’s not a vegetable.”

• **Mix-Up:** Tell your child 4 or 5 words that are all mixed up, but that make up a sentence when they are in the right order. Ask your child to put the words in the right order! For example, if you say, “outside, is, it, cold”, your child would tell you the sentence, “It is cold outside.” To make this trickier, ask your child to tell you 2 sentences with the same words. For example the words, “outside”, “is”, “it”, and “cold” can also turn into the question “Is it cold outside?”

• **Word Building:** Give your child a word. Ask him to add another word to it to make a new word. For example, if you say, “rain”, your child could add the words “coat”, “bow”, “hat”, or “fall” to make the words “raincoat”, “rainbow”, “rain hat”, and “rain fall”.

Go to [www.parentlinkalberta.ca](http://www.parentlinkalberta.ca) for more Talk Box ideas.