

How to effectively use infant-directed speech

1

SPEAK SLOWLY AND CLEARLY

Use a slow and clear voice to help your baby understand the sounds you are making.

USE A HIGHER PITCH

Babies are more attuned to higher-pitched sounds.

2

3

EXAGGERATE YOUR INTONATION

Use exaggerated intonation to help your baby understand the different emotions and meanings behind your words.

EXAGGERATE YOUR VOWEL SOUNDS

Exaggerate your pronunciation of vowels and use exaggerated facial expressions such as opening your mouth wide, to help your baby see and understand how to form different vowel sounds.

4

5

USE REPETITION

Repetition is important for language development, so repeat words and phrases to help your baby learn.

USE SIMPLE VOCABULARY

Use simple words and short sentences to help your baby understand what you are saying.

6



Tips provided by BabyLab researcher, Eylem Altuntas (pictured above).

Kalashnikova, M., & Burnham, D. (2018). Infant-directed speech from seven to nineteen months has similar acoustic properties but different functions. *Journal of child language*, 45(5), 1035-1053.

