

## Tips for talking with your child

Parent instruction:

- 1) Use leading statements instead of questioning...ie. "I bet you had fun at Grandma's today!" instead of "What did you do at Grandma's today?"
- 2) Model slow and easy speech. Use a relatively slow, relaxed rate in your own conversational speech – but not so slow as to sound unnatural.
- 3) Pause for a second or two before answering questions from your child to slow down conversational rate
- 4) Simplify the length and complexity of the speech used with your child
- 5) Reduce as many pressures and demands placed upon your child as possible
- 6) Monitor and reduce the fast pace of day to day activities and provide daily quiet time for reading, singing, going for a walk, etc... Keep conversation to a minimum and eliminate questions when possible.
- 7) Listen to what the child is saying. Respond to that, rather than the stuttering.
- 8) Give appropriate responses to what your child is saying such as head nods, smiles, and "uh-huhs". Let your child know that you are listening to what they have to say.
- 9) Keep natural eye contact when the child is talking.
- 10) Don't rush your child by interrupting or finishing words for him/her. Don't let others rush or tease your child.