Making small moments big!

When you talk, read and sing with children, you're helping them build their brains and develop important language, math, reading and social skills. Use these cards every day to help your child learn through their play.

If you have questions about your child’s growth or want to talk with someone about parenting, please call 2-1-1 and ask for Help Me Grow. For more tips and activities, visit onlib.org/makingsmallmomentsbig.
Step back from your baby so he cannot see you. Gently call his name. Watch what he does. Does he stop moving for a moment? Does he try to move his head toward your voice? Pick him up and say, “Here I am.”
Hold an orange in your hand and say, “An orange is round and smooth.” Hold a dish towel and say, “A dish towel is a square and feels soft.” Encourage your baby to explore these objects using her hands and, when safe, her mouth (like sucking on a rattle).
Common household items such as measuring spoons and measuring cups make toys with interesting sounds and shapes. Gently dangle and shake a set of measuring spoons or measuring cups where your baby can reach or kick at them. Let your baby hold them to explore and shake, too.
Infants seem to naturally understand the concept of “more” - the first step toward understanding addition. As you feed your baby, pause and ask her if she wants more. Wait to see how she responds and narrate her cues: “Oh, you’re licking your lips and looking at the spoon. You want more.”
Let your baby know every day how much you love him and how special he is - when he wakes up in the morning and when he goes to sleep each night.