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.
Practice following directions. Play a silly game where you ask your child to do two or three fun or unusual things in a row. For example, ask him to “Touch your elbow and then run in a circle” or “Find a book and put it on your head.”
Make an adventure path inside. Use items around the house to create obstacles. Walk your child through the path first, using words to describe what you see. After she can do it, make a new path or have her do so.
Draw simple pictures of faces that show happy, sad, excited, or silly expressions. Cut them out and glue them on a Popsicle stick or pencil. Let your child act out the different feelings with the "puppets."
Play games that involve following simple rules, such as Mother May I, Simon Says or Red Light, Green Light.
Before bedtime, look at a magazine or book together. Ask your child to point to pictures as you name them, such as “Where is the truck?” Be silly and ask him to point with an elbow or foot. Ask him to show you something that is round or something that goes fast.