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.
Choose a fun song you and your child can enjoy singing together. Songs with rhymes and repeating words can help make it easier for children to remember the lyrics. Encourage your child to fill in the last word to a song: “Old MacDonald had a...FARM!”
Encourage your child to make choices as often as possible. Ask, "Do you want to play with the blocks or read a story?" He will like having control over what he does.
Change things up by serving lunch outside of the kitchen. Assemble some picnicky foods that your child can "pack" himself. Spread a blanket on the family room floor and sit down together for a fun indoor picnic.
Create your own puzzle by cutting up a cereal or pasta box into little pieces that your child can put back together.
Talk about your own feelings when spending time with your child to show how to use words to communicate about emotions. You might say, “Reading bedtime stories is so warm and cozy!” or, “It’s really hard for me to wait my turn for the truck, so I’m playing with blocks while I wait.”