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.
Let's get dressed!

Get out dolls and clothes. Talk about each piece of clothing as they dress the dolls. Ask, "What is that? What color is it? How does it feel? What are they getting dressed for?"
Get a bucket of toys and have the children dump them out, then fill up the bucket again. Say, “Let's put them back in one by one.” Ask the children to name and describe the toys as they put them in the bucket.
Place a toy, sponge, apple, or other object in a bag. Ask the children to close their eyes and place their hand in the bag to guess what it is. Ask, "What does it feel like? What do you think it is?"
Scribbling is an important first step in learning how to write. Get out the crayons or washable markers. Let the children draw and scribble away. Say, "Tell me about your picture. What colors did you use?"
Select a favorite book. Read the book but leave out key words. Have the children fill in the words while you point to the matching picture. For example, "The ___ [dog] ran out of the ___ [house]."