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.
Sing during everyday activities like driving in the car or during bath time. It can be repetitive and simple, like “Wash your toes, wash your nose!”
Play matching and sorting games during your everyday routines. Your toddler can help sort socks into two piles - little socks for him and big socks for Mommy and Daddy. Next, find the matching pairs: "Do you see another sock with red stripes?"
Talk about the shapes and sizes of objects all around you: the large table that is a rectangle, or the small, round orange. When your child has mastered these concepts, describe less common shapes: the stop sign is an octagon, the pond is an oval.
Sing and clap along together. One clap for each syllable builds understanding of “one-to-one correspondence,” or the ability to count in sequence. Practicing rhythm and melody also helps children understand patterns.
Use basic measurement language in everyday routines with your child. In the bath, let your child play fill-and-dump. Point out when the cup is “full” and when it is “empty.”