PARENTS:
The more words your little one hears in conversations with you, the more connections their brain makes about words and what they mean. Understanding lots of words makes all learning easier, so talk, read and sing with your child!

SO:
TUNE IN
TALK MORE
TAKE TURNS

BECAUSE:
• The brain develops more rapidly in the first few years of life than at any other time in life.
• Loving words and caring touches help your baby’s brain develop.
• The more words children hear and understand, the better prepared they will be to learn.
• Reading aloud to your child is a great way to introduce new words as well as a love of reading. If you are not a confident reader, “read” the pictures. It’s your voice that is important.

Citation: Thirty Million Words at the University of Chicago

These materials were developed under a grant awarded by the Michigan Department of Education.
MY NOTES:

TUNE IN

Notice what your child is focused on.
Tune in, join in, and talk about it.

TALK MORE

Talk about what you are doing, talk about what your child is doing.
Expand on what your child says.

TAKE TURNS

Respond to your child’s sounds, gestures and eventually, words.
Give your child time to respond to you.
Ask lots of questions that require more than a “yes” or “no” answer.

WHAT AM I ALREADY DOING? WHAT ELSE CAN I DO?

When, where and how can I make sure that my child hears and knows lots and lots of words?