

Parenting Makes a Difference

Parenting is part natural and part learned. The more you learn, the better you can adjust to match your child's development and needs as they grow and change.

Nurturing

When you ...	Your child ...
> Show affection > Accept your child's feelings > Meet your child's needs > Celebrate your child's accomplishments and efforts	> Learns that they are loved > Will try new things > Believes that they can handle tough situations

Designing/guiding

When you ...	Your child ...
> Set limits for your child's behavior > Create a safe space for your child to explore > Set family routines	> Learns respect for people and things > Begins to understand what their parents value > Gains comfort in knowing what to expect



Take time to think about your behavior.

What do you do to **show** your love?

How do you **design** your home and routines?

How do you **guide** your child's behavior?

Responding

When you ...	Your child ...
> Respond consistently to your child's cues > Share attention and show interest > Think about your child's temperament	> Trusts that their needs will be met > Learns that they are valued and understood > Gains confidence

In what ways do you **respond** to your child?

Communicating

When you ...	Your child ...
> Label and point to objects > Take turns talking > Read books, tell stories, and sing	> Learns the pattern of conversation > Starts learning words to share their ideas > Builds skills to help them read someday

How do you **communicate** with your child?

Supporting learning

When you ...	Your child ...
> Help your child build skills > Provide new words, materials, and ideas > Motivate your child > Wonder with your child	> Learns to think and solve problems > Starts learning to organize their ideas > Gets better at focusing on a task > Explores things and ideas

How do you **support** your child's learning?

