As a grandparent, you play a truly special role in the lives of your grandchildren and family members.

When you share rich conversations and stories with your grandchildren, you are helping to support their early brain and language development. Here are some fun ideas for ways you can bond with your grandchildren—simply by talking, reading, and singing together (in person or over the phone).

- **Celebrate your family history.** Cuddle up at home and share a story about a cultural family tradition. Talk together about why it’s important to you.
- **Share a memory.** Tell your grandson about a favorite childhood memory. Ask your grandchild to share one of his favorite memories, too.
- **Empower your grandchild.** Explain a time when you were a child and it may have been difficult to learn how to do something new. What or who helped you learn to get better? You might ask, “What can grandma/grandpa do to help you learn something new?”
- **Read a favorite book.** Ask your grandchild to select a book that he loves and why it is special to him. Read it out loud together!
- **Sing and dance together.** Sing a favorite song and dance and teach the words and moves to your grandchild. Singing can introduce young children to new vocabulary words.
- **Draw together.** Draw a picture of a special day from your childhood. Describe why it was special and how it made you feel. Encourage your grandchild to do the same.
- **Learn new words together.** Teach your grandchild a word or phrase in the language you speak at home. By helping your grandchild build her vocabulary, her young mind will be ready to learn even more!