

## Book / Video

**The Very Hungry Caterpillar** by Eric Carle

- Eng: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=75NQK-Sm1YY>
- Eng-ASL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HsOyohSd9qU>
- ASL: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6H7wKXINZ4A>

## Song

**Apples and Bananas**

- Eng: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r5WLXZspD1M>
- ASL: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hc-N\\_ahjuel](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hc-N_ahjuel)

## Parent Education

**Exploring Outdoors – Game 60** (see handout)

- [https://teachingstrategies.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Exploring\\_Outdoors.pdf](https://teachingstrategies.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Exploring_Outdoors.pdf)
- Describe the things your child points to or picks up while you play with her outside. This helps your child to understand the world and learn new words to use as she talks about her experiences.

## Vision

**Adapting Your Home for a Child Who Is Blind or Has Low Vision**

- <https://familyconnect.org/after-the-diagnosis/adapting-your-home/>

## Daily Listening Check

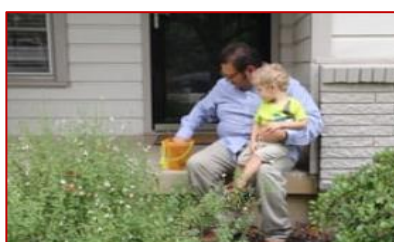
**Daily Listening Checks for Children**

- See handout

## Language

**Nature Walk and Talk**

- Foster your child's natural curiosity by exploring and describing their surroundings.
- <https://healthyathome.readyrosie.com/en/activity-lists/6/>
  - Find: **Week of April 27, 2020**
  - Find: **Nature art**
  - Find: **Toddlers and Twos**: click **EXPLORE**



Toddlers &amp; Twos

EXPLORE

## Listening and Spoken Language (LSL)

**What Do You Hear?**

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YVgv1EFJZHc>
- **Skill:** Auditory Identification – identify an animal with an associated sound
- **Activity:** Listen for the animal sound and see if your child can guess at animal – i.e. point to a picture of the animal, or say the name of the animal (labeling)

## American Sign Language (ASL)

**Sign Language Animals - Learn 53 Signs in ASL**

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ijdn9elmT7g>

## ACTIVITY: NATURE SCAVENGER HUNT AND DIY TREASURE BOX

If local guidelines allow, step outside with a small bucket or bag. Encourage your child to collect interesting items from nature. Talk together about each item by naming it and describing it. For example, "This is a stick. It is brown. This side is bumpy and the other side is smooth." If you are not able to go outside, look out the window together. What interesting things in nature can you see and describe?



### WHY IT'S IMPORTANT

Spending time outside awakens all of the senses and teaches children to notice and observe. Foster your child's natural curiosity by exploring and describing your surroundings.

### NOT READY YET

If your little one still prefers to eat nature rather than describe it, don't be discouraged! Your child still benefits from spending time outside. Talk about the nature that you see, hear, and touch. Watch for your child to notice the sound of a bird singing or smile at the feeling of the wind blowing.

### NEED A CHALLENGE

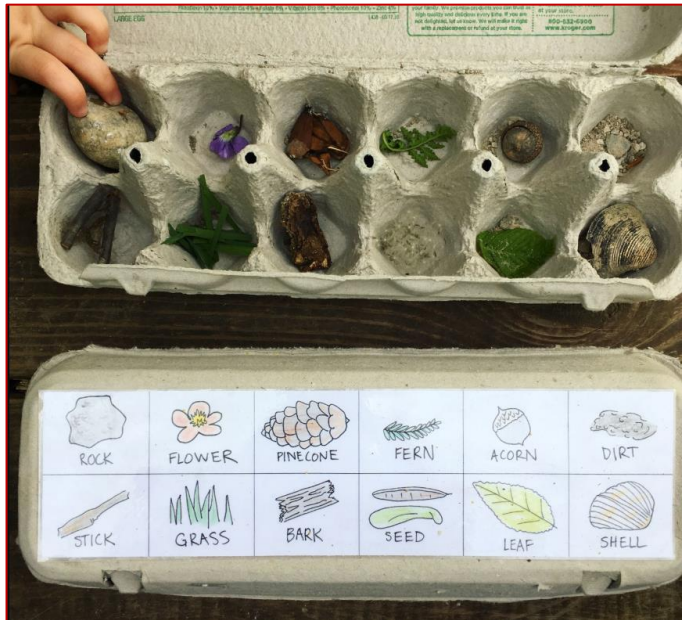
Invite your child to sort the nature items you've collected. Let your child decide the categories. Maybe you will sort according to color, size, or living versus nonliving. There is no right or wrong answer but there will be a lot of great thinking and discussion as you classify your items according to your groups.

1. Before the walk, you will need:

- a. Egg carton
- b. Paper and pencil:

Create a grid with 12 squares. Draw and label the items that your child will be looking for during the nature walk.

c. NOTE: for children with visual impairment, find like items and glue them on the grid. Child will be guided to 'find' and match to the ones on the grid.

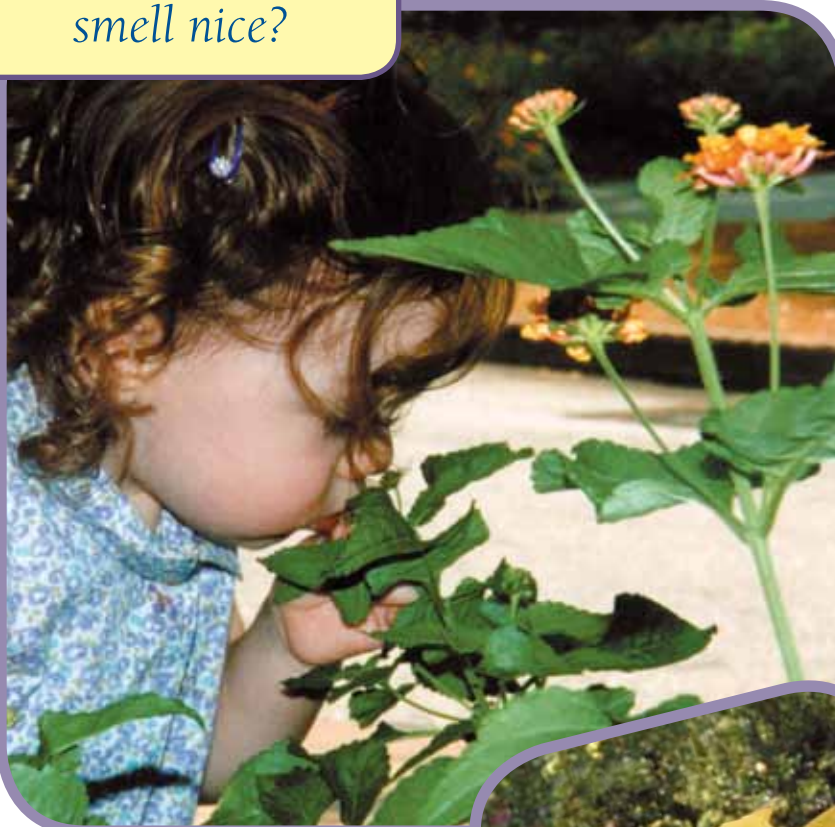


<https://i.pinimg.com/originals/c8/75/0e/c8750e46a786dbba657449abb516eb2e.jpg>

2. Go on a nature walk and look for the items.

# Exploring Outdoors

*Do those flowers  
smell nice?*



Describe the things your child points to or picks up while you play with her outside.

This helps your child to understand the world and learn new words to use as she talks about her experiences.

*Here's a yellow  
leaf. Do you  
want to hold it?*





## Why this is important

Playing outdoors gives your child endless ideas for play. Walking and talking with her while outdoors encourages her to explore with confidence. As you describe the things she points to or picks up, you are teaching her words she can use later to talk about her experiences. You are also helping her understand the world around her.

## What you do

- Walk outside with your child and encourage her to explore and investigate. Help her feel confident by making sure she is safe while outside.
- Talk about what she sees and touches. *The grass feels cool. That's a prickly bush!*
- Look for any interesting object to share and talk about with your child. *Look at that yellow dandelion.*
- Invite her to safely touch and examine leaves, flowers, sticks, sand, or rocks. She may want you to carry a few items she collects. If she smells a flower, ask her how it smells. When in the sandbox, allow her to play freely as you sit nearby to watch.
- Describe her play using words such as *gritty, sweet, slippery, rough, smooth, scoop, dig, between your fingers*, etc.

## Another idea

Add variety to her outdoor play by exploring different places. Simply crossing the street offers new opportunities for your child to explore.

### Let's read together!

*Pie in the Sky*  
by Lois Ehlert



# Daily Listening Checks for Children

**What is a listening check?** A listening check is when you make sure your child is hearing and noticing the specific speech sounds you say to him (without him seeing you), right after you put on your child's hearing technology.

## Why should I do a daily listening check?

The reasons to do daily listening checks are:

1) to make sure your child's hearing technologies are appropriately and consistently transmitting complete speech information to your child's brain to activate, grow, and develop neural connections, and 2) to confirm that your child is noticing and actually listening to that speech information.

## How often should I do a listening check?

A listening check should be done once a day, every day, right after you put the hearing devices on your child. There's no need to repeat the check during the day unless you notice that your child is not responding as expected.

## What materials/speech sounds are used?

The Ling six sounds are always used for the listening check, beginning in infancy and continuing throughout childhood.

## What are the Ling six testing sounds?

1. "mm" as in me
2. "oo" as in boot
3. "ah" as in hot
4. "ee" as in feet
5. "sh" as in shoe
6. "ss" as in sun

## Why are these particular speech sounds used?

Each of these six sounds is intended to cover a complete range of speech sounds from low frequency ('m' and 'oo') to high frequency ('sh' and 's') sounds. Frequency is commonly referred to as 'pitch.' If your child can hear all of these six sounds, your child probably can hear you speak, sing, and read to him, especially if the room is quiet and you are close by.

## How should I say the sounds?

The sounds should be spoken at a normal conversational volume, without the child seeing your mouth. Do not exaggerate the sounds by making them loud or long, or by repeating them over and over. The six sounds need to be presented at the same loudness and duration as they would be if the sounds were used in a word. Say the sounds in a different order each day. For example, one time you might begin saying the six sounds with 'ah', and the next time you might begin with 'oo'. Be sure to pause after you say each sound to give your child time to respond. Your pediatric audiologist and/or your therapist can work with you as you learn to do the daily listening check.

### **How close should I be to my child when I say the sounds?**

You should present the sounds to your child at a typical conversational distance – 3 to 6 feet away. As your child demonstrates the ability to detect and then identify the Ling six sounds from that distance, you can move halfway across the room.

### **How do I know my child heard the six Ling sounds?**

This is the fun part. You, your child's therapist, and/or his audiologist will teach him to do something to indicate he has heard the sound after you say each of them. For example, to demonstrate detection of the Ling six sounds, your child may put a ring on a ring stacker each time he hears one of the sounds. Detection is simply knowing that a sound was presented. Then, to demonstrate identification of the Ling six sounds, your child may point to a picture of one of the Ling six sounds, such as a baby sleeping for 'sh', or he may repeat the sound that he heard. Identification is knowing which sound was presented.

If your child is not yet ready to do these tasks, refer to the Daily Listening Checks for Babies resource handout for ideas about how to know that your child heard the Ling six sounds.

### **Should the room be quiet?**

Yes, the room should be very quiet. Turn off the TV, computer, dishwasher, etc. You don't want any other sounds conflicting with the six sounds you are saying.

### **What if my child doesn't respond after I say a sound?**

If your child is not responding to one or more of the six sounds, first, ensure that he is paying attention and that the room is quiet. Then, if he still does not respond, contact your pediatric audiologist right away to problem solve the situation. There could be an issue with your child's hearing technology, or your child's hearing/doorway may have changed. It is extremely important that auditory information reaches your child's brain to activate, grow, and develop critical neural connections for language and literacy. So, any problem needs to be analyzed and addressed right away.

### **If my child has two devices, should I do a daily listening check with each device?**

Yes, you should complete a daily listening check with each of your child's devices. If you only do a listening check when your child is listening with both of his devices, you could miss a problem with one or the other of the devices or you could miss a change in hearing at one ear or the other. Ideally, you would complete a daily listening check with each device individually and with the devices together to ensure access to the Ling six sounds in all three listening conditions.

### **Can I listen to my child's hearing technology?**

Yes, as part of your daily listening check you can listen to your child's hearing technology. You will just need some extra equipment to do so. Refer to the Daily Device Check resource handout for information on how to listen to your child's hearing technology appropriately and safely.