

Check the following websites for summer activities in your district:

www.wced6026.org
www.albany.k12.mn.us
www.isd740.org (Melrose)
www.isd743.k12.mn.us (Sauk)
www.paynesvilleschools.com

Talking to children in their first years of life sets them up for future academic success. The easiest and most effective way that children learn is simply by talking.

May is Better Speech & Hearing Month—a time to prioritize communication. Here are 10 tips for parents on how to manage kids' technology use to keep communication at the forefront:

1. Create tech-free times
2. Resist overreliance of technology to pacify boredom
3. Don't overestimate the value of educational apps
4. Make tech use a group activity
5. Consider whether young kids *really* need their own devices
6. Set daily time limits
7. Be consistent in enforcing the parameters you set for tech use
8. Always practice safe listening, especially when using ear buds and headphones
9. Model the tech habits you want your kids to adopt
10. Learn the signs of communication disorders

Learn more at <http://IdentifytheSigns.org>



May is Better Speech and Hearing Month

The American Speech-Language-Hearing Association designates May as "Better Speech and Hearing Month"! It is the time of year to make the field of Speech-Language Pathology known to the community. In the early years of child development, parents play a key role in enhancing their child's speech/language development. Here are some ideas for parents to encourage their child's speech/language skills:

Language Development

- Listen and respond to your child
- Talk, read, and play with your child
- Talk with your child in the language you are most comfortable using
- Know it is good to teach your child to speak a second language
- Talk about what you are doing and what your child is doing
- Use a lot of different words with your child
- Use longer sentences as your child gets older
- Have your child play with other children

Speech Development

- Say the sounds correctly when you talk--it is okay if your child makes some mistakes with sounds
- Do not correct speech sounds--it is more important to let your child keep talking

Fluency Development

- Give your child time to talk
- Do not interrupt or stop your child while he or she is speaking
- Many children stutter for a short period of time (In most cases, the stuttering will stop)

Voice Development

- See a doctor if your child sounds hoarse or breathy or has a nasal sounding voice
- Tell your child not to shout or scream
- Keep your child away from cigarette smoke

Source:

<http://identifythesigns.org/signs-of-speech-and-language-disorders/>

If you have questions, please contact:

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