My name is Kim Metz, and I’m excited to introduce you to this video series, which is designed to help you encourage your child’s speech and language development. The videos are made possible with funding from First Things First, an Arizona voter initiative that brings quality experiences to our youngest children, so they’re prepared to start school healthy and ready to succeed.

Talking really does matter - that’s why the University of Arizona Talking Matters Team and The Parent Connection have been working with teachers and parents to use research-based strategies to help your children learn to use their words and use their words to learn!

The best gift you can give your children is the ability and confidence to communicate and connect with their world. Helping your children reach their full potential, whether communication comes easily or not, is a goal you can reach.

Babies instinctively know how to communicate their needs. From the moment they’re born, we can anticipate how their normal development will progress, even though the timing will vary from child to child. That’s why, when you talk with your children, you help guide and encourage their journey through the milestones of communication.

In the following videos you’ll learn about -

- What you can expect from your children as they develop speech and language.
- What are some of the signs that your child may need extra help?
- And, how young children learn more than one language at the same time.
Finally, we’ll answer “Frequently Asked Questions” in our last video.

At the end of each video you’ll be presented with a short survey. Please take a few minutes to give us your feedback so we can make this series one that truly meets your needs.

One last note: You’ll find links to helpful resources on the sidebar of this site.

That’s it! When you’re ready to continue, click on any of the video icons below.