

# Language Development Handout

Answer the questions below as you watch the videos & read:

## Theories of Language Development: Nativist, Learning, Interactionist

<https://www.khanacademy.org/test-prep/mcat/processing-the-environment/language/v/theories-of-language-development>

1. What do babies do as they develop language?
2. Complete the Chart: Language Development Theories

Theory	Nativist	Learning/ Behavioral	Social Interactionist
Beliefs			
Person associated with	Noam Chomsky	B. F. Skinner	Lev Vygotsky
Main ideas			

3. Which theory(s) do you believe most represents infant language development? Why?

## Promoting Language and Literacy: Infant and Toddler Care Video

1. How do children develop language?
2. How does a child make meaning from sound?
3. How can teachers support infants to learn language in the 1<sup>st</sup> year of life?
4. What is jargon? What is a holophrase?
5. How can caregivers/ teachers promote continuity of the child's home language in a classroom?
6. Why are symbols important for young children's literacy development?
7. Why is scribbling important? Why is it important for toddlers to use tools, playdough, cut, and paint?
8. What are the 4 cornerstones of language?

## Kovach & Da Ros-Voseles (2011)

1. What does language provide for babies?
2. What happens when an adult acknowledges and speaks directly to a baby by name?
3. How do babies communicate?
4. What fosters the relationships between babies and adults?
5. How does your thoughts about babies impact you? Your communication with babies?
6. What are important ways to communication with babies?
7. Why is it important for babies to know what is happening next?
8. How can infant teachers help babies to understand the teacher's actions, intentions and to send clear messages to babies? What should infant teachers think about when communicating with babies?