**Build Your Baby’s Brainpower! **

Your baby’s brain will grow from 25% to 90% of its adult size by age 5. The more you talk to and read to your child during that period, the more brain connections your child will form. You will be greatly increasing your child’s vocabulary and likelihood of school success. Here are some skills your child should be learning at different ages and what you can do to help your child develop these pre-literacy skills at an early age. You can build your baby’s brainpower!

***Age* *Developmental/Literacy Skills***

**Infant** looks at pictures & pats pictures.

**Parents** can use board books & follow baby’s cues.

**Child** points if asked “Where is?” & turns book right side up.

**Parents** can ask child “Where is the?” & wait for child to point at it, Also ,let the child turn the pages of the books.

**Child** can enjoy picture books with several sentences per page & can recite familiar books or familiar words to themselves.

**Parents** can ask the child to describe actions, relate stories to the child’s experiences, & use crayons & paper.

**Child** can listen to longer stories & can help retell the story, Child can recognize letters or even write their name.

**Parents** can use books to teach their child to recognize colors, letters and numbers, and to learn counting.

**Child** can name familiar pictures & fill in words of the story.

**Parents** can use books for bedtime reading, Ask child “What’s that?” & wait for child to answer.