

**DOMAIN 5: COMMUNICATION, LANGUAGE, AND LITERACY****SUB-DOMAIN: LANGUAGE****GRAMMAR AND SYNTAX****GOAL 53: CHILDREN DEMONSTRATE PROGRESSION IN GRAMMAR AND SYNTAX.**

Age Range	Developmental Growth	Child Indicators	Caregiver Strategies
36 to 60 Months	Uses basic conventions of grammar and syntax.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Uses articles in sentences (the ball, a cat).</li> <li>▪ Uses complete sentences in conversations during play with peers.</li> <li>▪ Begins to use correct question forms.</li> <li>▪ Begins to use prepositions.</li> <li>▪ Talks in sentences with five to six words to describe people, places, and events.</li> <li>▪ Uses more complex grammar and parts of speech.</li> <li>▪ Describes a task, project, and/or event sequentially in three or more sentences.</li> <li>▪ Asks questions for information/clarification.</li> <li>▪ Uses sequence sentences in logical order.</li> <li>▪ Starts using and understanding past, present, and future tense.</li> <li>▪ Begins to correctly use subject and verb tense.</li> <li>▪ Strings multiple sentences together in logical order.</li> <li>▪ Uses complex grammar and parts of speech.</li> <li>▪ Combines more than one idea using complex sentences.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Engage child in conversation and give wait time for a response.</li> <li>▪ Provide multiple experiences in the community and discuss them.</li> <li>▪ Talk, sign, sing, and read to child.</li> <li>▪ Model adult sentences in conversation.</li> <li>▪ Ask open-ended questions (e.g. "What do you think?" "What do you think will happen if . . . ?" "What if . . . ?"). After child answers, repeat the answer in a complete sentence or sentences.</li> <li>▪ Engage child in meaningful conversations during daily routines.</li> <li>▪ Set aside a regular time during daily routines to engage child in meaningful conversation (if child is bilingual, talk with the child in both languages, at different times of the day).</li> <li>▪ Let child know that you recognize all languages and means of expression as a valid means of communication.</li> <li>▪ When reading with child, point out how text progresses from word to sentence to paragraphs.</li> <li>▪ Model good grammar.</li> <li>▪ Ask real questions, rather than questions for which you already know the answer.</li> <li>▪ Ask questions that reference time concepts (e.g. "What did you have for breakfast yesterday?").</li> </ul>