




Philip Tells the Ethiopian About Jesus Acts 8:26-40

Infants and young preschoolers have the emerging ability to hear and listen. As they grow they learn to differentiate sounds—loud, soft, high, and low. They also gain a listening memory, which is the ability to identify sounds and locate their origins. This is first seen when a baby learns to identify his or her mother’s voice in utero and expands as young children develop. Their ability to listen to you will pave the way for them to listen and pay attention to God in the future.

INFANT

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
1 Getting Started	Sing and Celebrate Listen to praise songs.	CD player Teacher Pack: CD	
2 Bible Exploration	Listening Ears Identify where a sound is coming from.	scissors Teacher Pack: “Philip Figure” 	Cut out the “Philip Figure.”
3 Weaving Faith Into Life	I’ll Listen to You Hear a rhyme with actions.		
	Whispered Words Hear whispered sounds.		
	Weaving Faith at Home Take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)	Remove the Lesson 10 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.



Bible Point
Listen to God.

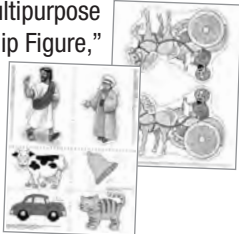
Key Verse
“But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you” (John 14:26).

Weaving Faith Into Life
Children will practice listening to God.





TODDLER


LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
1 Getting Started	Sing and Celebrate Sing or listen to praise songs.	CD player Teacher Pack: CD	
2 Bible Exploration	Listening to God Identify sounds and see pictures of Philip and the Ethiopian.	Bible, CD player, scissors, tape, block Teacher Pack: CD, “The Ethiopian’s Chariot” teaching picture, multipurpose disks, “Philip Figure,” “Sound Cards” 	Cut out the 2 chariots. Tape a chariot to each side of a block. Tape multipurpose disks onto the chariot as wheels.
3 Weaving Faith Into Life	Chariot Wheels Color the picture of the Ethiopian in his chariot.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Philip Listens” page (at the end of the lesson), crayons, scissors, glue	Remove the Lesson 10 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Cut out the Philip figure on each handout, and glue it to the back of the chariot.
	Bell Hops Listen for a bell sound.	bell, CD player Teacher Pack: CD	
	Weaving Faith at Home Take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the “Growing With Jesus” page (at the end of the lesson)	

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.



2-YEAR-OLD



LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
1 Getting Started	Sing and Celebrate Sing or listen to praise songs.	CD player, blocks Teacher Pack: CD	
2 Bible Exploration	Philip Listened to God Identify sounds, and act out what Philip did.	Bible, CD player, scissors, tape, block Teacher Pack: CD, "The Ethiopian's Chariot" teaching picture, multipurpose disks, "Philip Figure," "Sound Cards" 	Cut out the 2 chariots. Tape a chariot to each side of a block. Tape multipurpose disks onto the chariot as wheels.
3 Weaving Faith Into Life	Listening Philip Create a picture of Philip.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Philip Listens" page (at the end of the lesson), crayons, glue sticks, scissors	Remove the Lesson 10 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book. Cut out the Philip figure on each handout.
	Listening Hide-and-Seek Respond to the call of their names by emerging from hiding places.		
	Weaving Faith at Home Take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages.	My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)	

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.





INFANT

**1 GETTING
STARTED**

Sing and Celebrate

What You'll Do

Sing "Listen, Listen!" (track 13 on the CD) to the tune of "Angels Watching Over Me" anytime during the lesson. You can sing to the babies as you rock, play, feed, or change them.



Listen, listen!

You may hear the sound of birdies singing.

Listen, listen!

You may hear the birdies sing.

Listen, listen!

You may hear the sound of children playing.

Listen, listen!

You may hear the children play.

Listen, listen!

You may hear the sound of bells a-ringin'.

Listen, listen!

You may hear the bells ring.

Listen, listen!

You may hear the voice of God the Father.

Listen, listen!

You may hear the voice of God.

Afterward, say: ► **LISTEN TO GOD.**

Sing "God Gave the Holy Spirit" (not on the CD) to the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb" anytime during the lesson. Hold an infant on your lap as you do the motions.



God gave us the Holy Spirit, *(move the baby's hands back and forth in wavelike motions)*

Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit. *(continue to move the baby's hands in wavelike motions)*

God gave us the Holy Spirit *(point up; then move the baby's hands back and forth in wavelike motions)*

To always be with us. *(put the baby's arms around himself or herself)*

Afterward, say: ► **LISTEN TO GOD.**



Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player

Teacher Pack

CD: "Listen, Listen!"
(track 13)





Listening Ears Supplies

scissors
Teacher Pack
 “Philip Figure”

Listening Ears Easy Prep

Cut out the “Philip
 Figure.”

2 BIBLE EXPLORATION

Listening Ears

What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

As an infant is lying on a blanket or as a crawler is playing on the floor, quietly go over to him or her.

Say: **Hello**, [baby’s name]. Repeat the greeting until the baby turns and looks in the direction of your voice. Call to the baby from several different locations in the room, watching for the baby to turn to the sound of your voice. Smile at the baby, and go over and touch the baby’s ears. **You are a good listener. Your ears listened to my voice. We ► LISTEN TO GOD.**

Give the baby a big hug. Show the baby the Philip figure, moving the figure as you say the following.

Say: **Philip was a good listener. He listened to God. If God said “jump,” Philip jumped. If God said “run,” Philip ran. Philip listened to God. We ► LISTEN TO GOD, too.**

3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

I’ll Listen to You

What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Lay the baby on his or her back on your lap. Smile and look directly into the baby’s eyes as you move his or her body to the motions of this rhyme:

I’ll listen to your tummy when it rumbles and you’re hungry. *(pat baby’s tummy)*

I’ll listen to your voice as you cry when you’re sad. *(gently tap baby’s lips)*

I’ll listen to your hands when they clap and you’re happy. *(clap baby’s hands together)*

I’ll listen to your legs when they kick and you’re glad. *(gently move baby’s legs)*

I’ll listen to you now because God and I both love you. *(pick up baby and hug)*

I listen to you, and God listens to you. You can ► LISTEN TO GOD, too.



Whispered Words

What You'll Do

Experiment with baby's responses to different kinds of whispered sounds. Some babies really like hard sounds, such as "b-b-b-b" or "p-p-p-p." Some like soft sounds, such as "swsh-swsh." Hold baby close and watch for his or her expression in response to the sounds.

Say: **God made so many wonderful sounds. I'm happy to share them with you! I'm glad you listen. You can ► LISTEN TO GOD, too.**

Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their "Growing With Jesus" pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at group.com/digital.

TODDLER

1 GETTING STARTED

Sing and Celebrate

What You'll Do

Sing "Listen, Listen!" (track 13 on the CD) to the tune of "Angels Watching Over Me" anytime during the lesson. Have toddlers listen intently and then clap when they hear the sound mentioned in the song. This is a wonderfully mellow song to use whenever children are getting overstimulated.



Listen, listen!

You may hear the sound of birdies singing.

Listen, listen!

You may hear the birdies sing.

Listen, listen!

You may hear the sound of children playing.



Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1 copy per child of the "Growing With Jesus" page (at the end of the lesson)

Weaving Faith at Home Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 10 pages from each My Bible Snuggles student book.

Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player

Teacher Pack

CD: "Listen, Listen!" (track 13)





Listening to God Supplies

Bible
CD player
scissors
tape
block

Teacher Pack

CD: various sound effects (tracks 14 through 17)
“The Ethiopian’s Chariot” teaching picture
multipurpose disks
“Philip Figure”
“Sound Cards”

Listening to God Easy Prep

Cut out the 2 chariots. Tape a chariot to each side of a block. Tape multipurpose disks onto the chariot as wheels.


Listen, listen!
You may hear the children play.

Listen, listen!
You may hear the sound of bells a-ringin’.
Listen, listen!
You may hear the bells ring.

Listen, listen!
You may hear the voice of God the Father.
Listen, listen!
You may hear the voice of God.

Afterward, say: ► **LISTEN TO GOD.**

Sing “God Gave the Holy Spirit” (not on the CD) to the tune of “Mary Had a Little Lamb” anytime during the lesson. Hold a child in your lap with his or her back to you so that your arms reach around to guide his or her hands. This will create a stronger connection to the comforting presence of the Holy Spirit at the end of the song.

 **God gave us the Holy Spirit,** (*move the child’s hands back and forth in wavelike motions*)

Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit. (*continue to move the child’s hands in wavelike motions*)

God gave us the Holy Spirit (*point up; then move the child’s hands back and forth in wavelike motions*)

To always be with us. (*put the child’s arms around himself or herself*)

Afterward, say: ► **LISTEN TO GOD.**

2 BIBLE EXPLORATION

Listening to God

What You’ll Do

Gather a group of toddlers around you.

Say: **I have something special for you to listen to today.** Play the cow sound (track 14 on the CD). **What was that sound?** Help the children identify the sound by pointing to the corresponding picture. **Very good! Now listen again.** Play the phone sound (track 15). **What was that sound?** Help the children point to the correct picture. **Very good.** Play the cat sound (track 16). **What was that sound?** Help children identify the picture. **Now let’s listen to one more sound.** Play the car sound (track 17).

You are such good listeners. Open your Bible to Acts 8:26-40. Show children the



words and tell them the Bible is God’s special book. **The Bible tells about another good listener.** Hold up the Philip figure. **His name is Philip. God told Philip to go talk to a man who was in his chariot reading the Bible.** Show the chariot. **Philip heard God and ran to the chariot.** Put the Philip figure on the chariot next to the Ethiopian. **Philip helped the man understand the Bible and know God. We can listen to God as Philip did and do what God asks. We ► LISTEN TO GOD.**

3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

Chariot Wheels

What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Set out the prepared “Philip Listens” pages and crayons.

Say: **Today we heard about Philip, who listened to God. We also learned that we can listen to God, too. Now we’re going to decorate our chariots.**

Give each child a prepared handout, and let kids choose crayons and color their pictures.

Say: **You’re good listeners. Just as you listened to my instructions, you ► LISTEN TO GOD, too.**

Bell Hops

What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Play some music from the CD, such as “God So Loved the World” (John 3:16) (track 5). Occasionally stop the music, ring a bell, and lift a toddler high in the air. Once the children get the idea that they go “up” when the bell rings, encourage the toddlers to jump up on their own. You may wish to encourage toddlers to listen for the bell and then run to you so that you may lift each one high.

Say: **Good things happen when we listen! ► LISTEN TO GOD.**

Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!



Chariot Wheels Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or
1 copy per child of
the “Philip Listens”
page (at the end of the
lesson)
crayons
scissors
glue

Chariot Wheels Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 10
pages from each My
Bible Snuggles student
book. Cut out the Philip
figure on each handout,
and glue it to the back
of the chariot.

Bell Hops Supplies

bell
CD player
Teacher Pack
CD: various songs

Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1
copy per child of the
“Growing With Jesus”
page (at the end of the
lesson)





Sing and Celebrate Supplies

CD player
blocks

Teacher Pack

CD: "Listen, Listen!"
(track 13)

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church's families. Available at group.com/digital.

2-YEAR-OLD

1 GETTING STARTED

Sing and Celebrate

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Sing "Listen, Listen!" (track 13 on the CD) to the tune of "Angels Watching Over Me" anytime during the lesson.

 **Listen, listen!**

You may hear the sound of birdies singing.

Listen, listen!

You may hear the birdies sing.

Listen, listen!

You may hear the sound of children playing.

Listen, listen!

You may hear the children play.

Listen, listen!

You may hear the sound of bells a-ringin'.

Listen, listen!

You may hear the bells ring.

Listen, listen!

You may hear the voice of God the Father.


Listen, listen!

You may hear the voice of God.

Afterward, say: ► **LISTEN TO GOD.**

Sing "God Gave the Holy Spirit" (not on the CD) to the tune of "Mary Had a Little Lamb" anytime during the lesson. Have children sit in a circle. Give each child a block to give to a friend sitting nearby as you sing the word *gave*. This will reinforce children's understanding of giving and connect it with God giving us the Holy Spirit. Likewise, as you sing the words *with us*, have the children scoot closer to each other or toward you.



 God gave us the Holy Spirit,
Holy Spirit, Holy Spirit.
God gave us the Holy Spirit
To always be with us.

Afterward, say: ► LISTEN TO GOD.

2 BIBLE EXPLORATION

Philip Listened to God

What You'll Do

Gather a group of 2-year-olds around you.

Say: **Put on your listening ears and help me.** Cup your hands to your ears. **We are going to play a listening game. Please listen very carefully to this sound.** Play the first sound (track 14 on the CD). Have one child come up and identify the picture that matches the sound. **Now listen to the next sound.** Play sound number two (track 15). Have another child come up and identify the matching picture. **Keep your listening ears on for the last sounds.** Play the third sound (track 16), and have a different child come and identify the picture. Then play sound number four (track 17). **You are such good listeners!**

Open your Bible to Acts 8:26-40. Show children the words and tell them the Bible is God's special book.

Say: **Our Bible tells us about another good listener. We'll act out what happened. There was a man named Philip.** Have the children stand. Hold up the figure of Philip. **Philip was walking one day, and God spoke to him.** Have the children walk in place. **God told Philip to go talk to a man who was in a chariot reading the Bible.** Have children stop walking and cup hands together like holding a book. Hold up the chariot. **Philip ran over to the chariot (have children run in place) and asked the man if he needed help.** Put the Philip figure on the chariot next to the Ethiopian. Have children sit down. **Philip helped the man understand the Bible and know God. Like Philip, we can listen to God and do what we hear God ask us to do.** ► LISTEN TO GOD.

You were such good listeners today. Let's cheer for ourselves! Lead the children in clapping and cheering for themselves.



Philip Listened to God Supplies

Bible
CD player
scissors
tape
block

Teacher Pack

CD: various sound effects (tracks 14 through 17)
"The Ethiopian's Chariot" teaching picture
multipurpose disks
"Philip Figure"
"Sound Cards"

Philip Listened to God Easy Prep

Cut out the 2 chariots.
Tape a chariot to each side of a block. Tape multipurpose disks onto the chariot as wheels.





Listening Philip Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or
1 copy per child of
the “Philip Listens”
page (at the end of the
lesson)
crayons
glue sticks
scissors

Listening Philip Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 10
pages from each My
Bible Snuggles student
book. Cut out the Philip
figure on each handout.

Weaving Faith at Home Supplies

My Bible Snuggles or 1
copy per child of the
“Growing With Jesus”
page (at the end of the
lesson)

3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

Listening Philip

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Set out crayons and glue, and give each child a prepared “Philip Listens” page.

Say: **Today we heard how Philip listened to God. We also learned that we**
▶ **LISTEN TO GOD** and do what he asks. Now we're going to make a picture that
shows how Philip listened to God.

Help each child glue the Philip figure onto the back of the chariot. Encourage children to color their pictures.

Say: **See how Philip listened to God and moved to help the man in the chariot? We**
▶ **LISTEN TO GOD.**

Listening Hide-and-Seek

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Say: **Now we're going to play a game where you have to put on your listening ears.**
Cup your ears with your hands. **Find a hiding place and listen carefully. When you hear
your name called, you'll jump out and say, “Here I am!”**

Help younger children find hiding places. When everyone who wants to hide is hidden, go around the room calling out a child's name. When he or she jumps out from hiding, move on to the next child. When the game is finished, congratulate children on their good listening.

Say: **You listened to me, and we** ▶ **LISTEN TO GOD.**

Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their “Growing With Jesus” pages. Encourage parents to do the activities with children to help them grow with Jesus. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

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Growing With Jesus



Your child learned about listening to God (from Acts 8:26-40). Your child participated in one of the following activities today. You can use these activities with your child to help your child grow with Jesus throughout the week.

INFANT

Whispered Words

Experiment with your baby's responses to different kinds of whispered sounds. Some babies really like hard sounds, such as "b-b-b-b" or "p-p-p-p." Some like soft sounds, such as "swsh-swsh." Hold your baby close, and watch for his or her expression in response to the sounds.

Say: **God made so many wonderful sounds. I'm happy to share them with you! I'm glad you listen. You can listen to God, too.**

TODDLER

Bell Hops

Play some music from a CD. Occasionally stop the music, ring a bell, and lift your toddler high in the air. Once your child gets the idea that he or she goes "up" when the bell rings, encourage your toddler to jump up when he or she hears the bell.

Say: **Good things happen when we listen! You can listen to God, too!**

2-YEAR-OLD

Listening Hide-and-Seek

Say: **We're going to play a game where you have to put on your listening ears. Cup your ears with your hands. Find a hiding place and listen carefully. When I call your name, jump out and say, "Here I am!"**

When your child is hidden, call out his or her name. When your child jumps out from hiding, give him or her a big hug. Play the game again.

Say: **You listened to me, and you can listen to God.**



Open Ears

When children are told it's time to put away the toys, they may not seem to hear us. Yet they come running when we lightly jiggle the lid to the cookie jar! Children learn when to listen and when to ignore. However, you can help your child learn to listen by using his or her name, by asking if what you're saying is clear, and by playing "listening" games. Once your child listens to you, listening to God will become more natural for him or her.



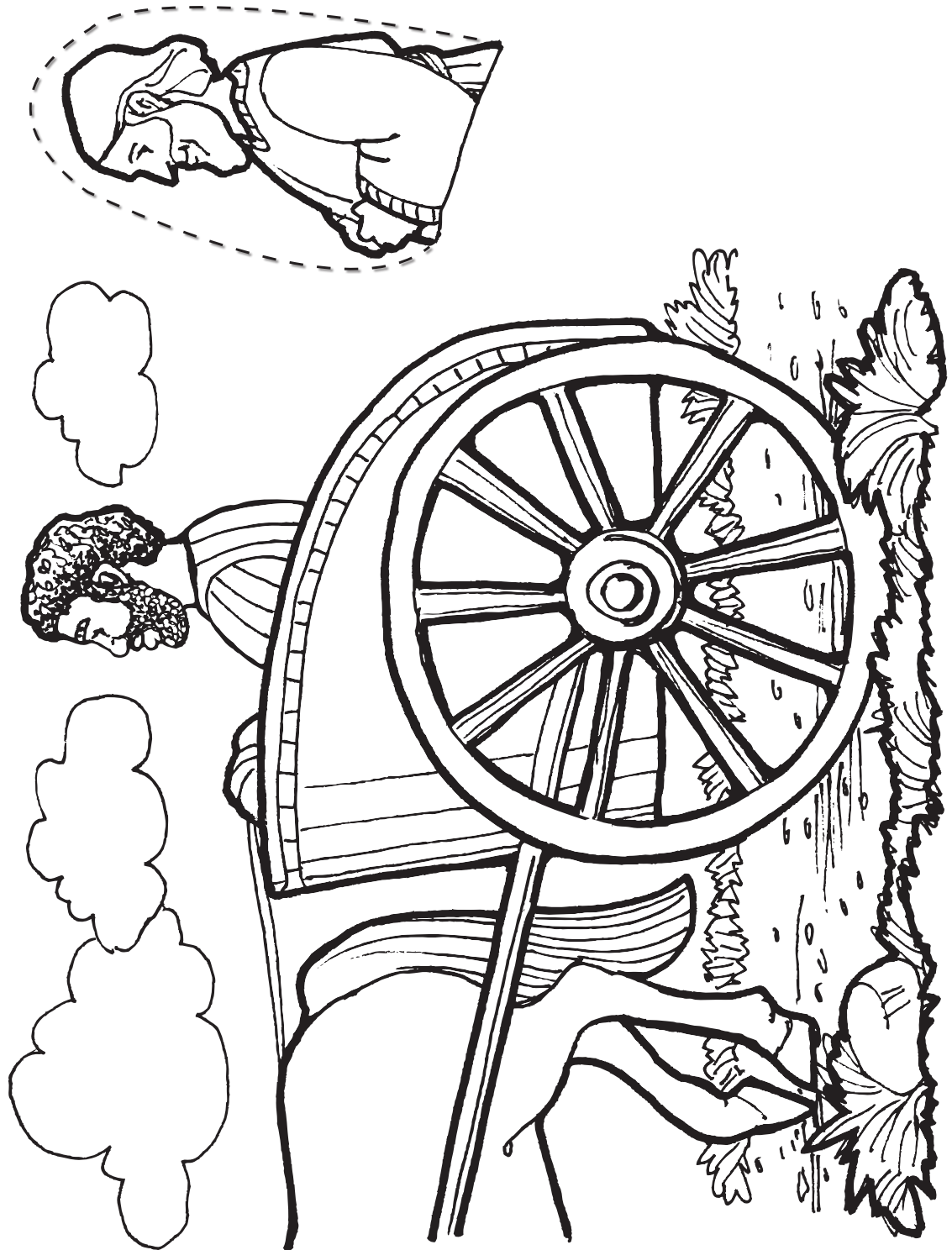
Use these ideas to help your child become a FaithWeaver:

- Experiment with loud and soft sounds with your child. Whisper, laugh, talk loudly, and talk in a high voice. Help your child match the sound you are making.
- Mimic noises you hear around the house, such as the sound from a vacuum cleaner, your washing machine, or the family pet.
- Call your child's name. When he or she turns and looks or comes running, express your gratitude for listening ears.

**OK
TO COPY**



Philip Listens



OK
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Illustrated by Nancy Munger.

