

## “Pearing” Down Fill-in-the-Blank

Using fill-in-the-blank with infants and toddlers keeps them communicating and engaged! Pick a book, song, or activity you do frequently and then choose a phrase to use fill-in-the-blank with.

### **PACE**

Pace your pause. Give children enough time to process and respond, but say the word and move on if they do not.

### **EXPRESS**

Your facial expression and tone of voice can cue children to fill in the blank. It is okay if the children don't respond, but act as if they will.

### **ACKNOWLEDGE**

The children may make a noise, gesture, or say the word. Say something positive back!

### **REPEAT**

Repeat your phrase often. The more you say the phrase, the more likely the children are to respond.

