The truth is that in a good visit from your early intervention specialist both you and your baby are the student. In order for your child to learn the meaning of words we try to target places and events throughout the day where he can get a meaningful repetition of a word or phrase in its natural use. Your baby learns words best when we use strategies for making the most of these places and events. That is where your learning as a parent comes in. It is not just “talking more” with your child. It involves “talking smart”, using strategies that are known to help improve a baby’s chance of developing strong listening and language skills. As specialists, we ourselves are constantly self-examining and trying to improve our own skills. It takes practice and there is room for improvement for everyone. You, as the parent, are the only one where these skills can pay off. You know and love your child. Only you can make the most of the time from the moment he wakes until the moment he drifts off to sleep for the night. Try to work on just one skill at a time. Our CRIB NOTES target skills and understanding needed to make the most of your child’s listening and language day. Each handout comes with a small card with key points to remember regarding a specific parent strategy. You can make a holder for these cards using the last two sheets of this handout. Use it to hold these cards so that everyone involved with your child can get the chance to think about changing their habits towards a more enriched and powerful way of talking with babies.

Print the two sheets at the end of this handout onto cardstock paper. Cut out each shape. The window of the shape on sheet 1 should be cut out. Then fold back the sides and bottom flaps. Glue and tape the white flaps to their place (A, B, and C) on the square with the Listening Room logo on sheet 2. Now tape this to the fridge door. Place your CRIB NOTES inside. You should see the latest CRIB NOTE through the window. When you get a chance, take out past cards to review. Good luck and Have Fun!
cut this out...
cut this window out
cut this out...