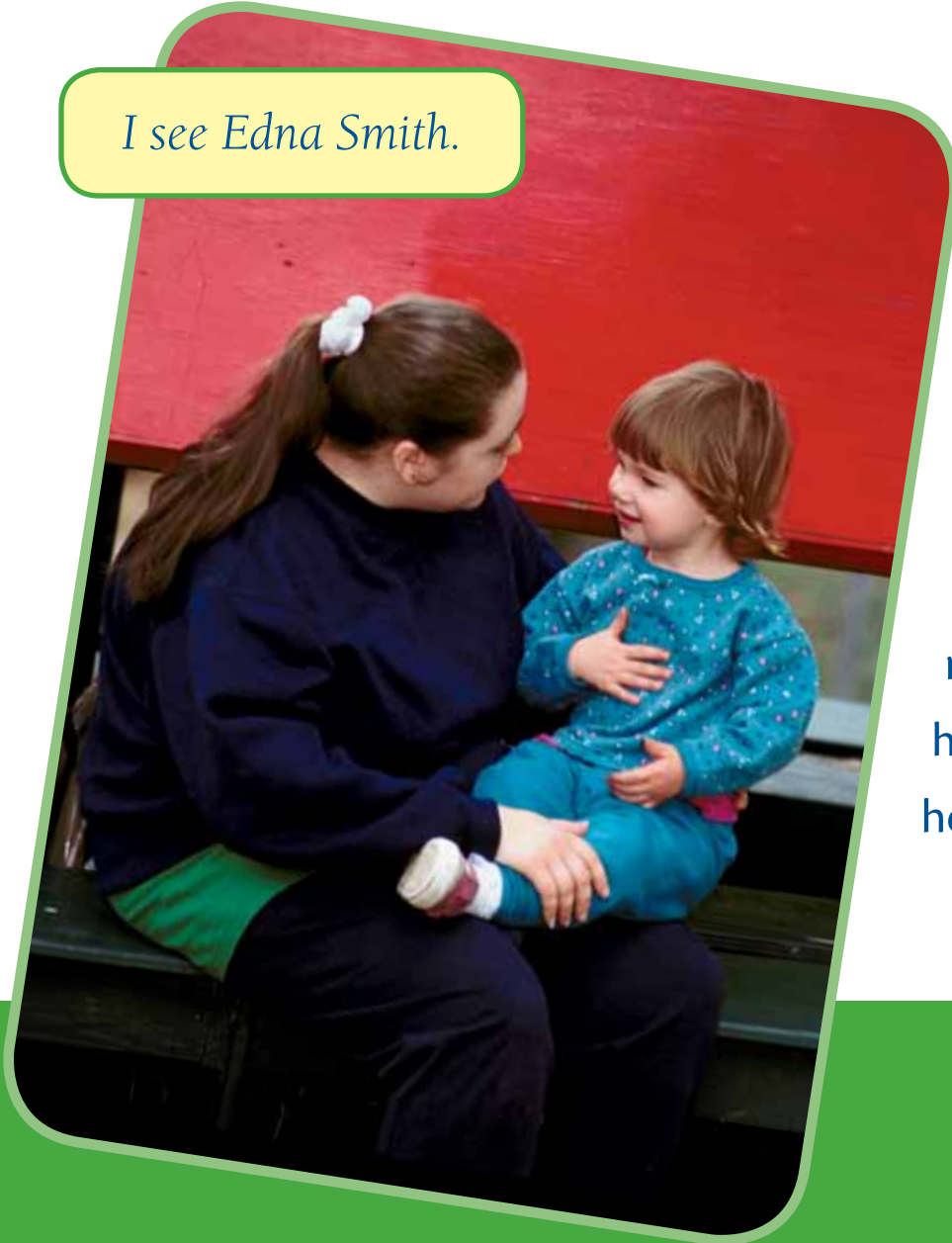


What's Your Name?

I see Edna Smith.



Use your child's name in songs, stories, and games to encourage her to say it.

Recognizing and remembering her name helps your child strengthen her self-image.



Why this is important

A young child may quickly learn to recognize her name, but she may have few opportunities to speak her name. Giving your child practice saying and using her full name and encouraging her to look carefully at her written name develops her sense of identity.

What you do

- Begin by speaking your child's name clearly so that she can learn it and recognize it when others speak it.
- Introduce your child to others using her full name. Occasionally use her full name when speaking to her: *Thank you, Shawna Johnson.*
- Make up rhymes or simple songs using her name. *Maria, Maria, I love you. Maria, Maria, touch your shoe.*
- Make up games that require your child to say her name. She can knock on the door as you ask, *Who is it?*

Ready to move on?

Sit together and look at family photos. Name each person you see. You can include written labels for each person as a way to help her learn to recognize her written name and the names of others.

Let's read together!

A Bit More Bert
by Allan Ahlberg