

#TALKINGISTEACHINGTIPS CALENDAR



Talk, read, and sing with your children every day! Simple interactions like the ones below can help boost children's brain and language development, setting them up for success in school and beyond. Please share photos of your family talking, reading, and singing using the hashtag #TalkingIsTeachingTips.

1 As you fold your laundry, put folded clothes in one pile and unfolded clothes in another. Ask your child, "Which pile has more clothes?"

2 Did you know that infants can grasp early math concepts? As you feed your baby, say "One more!" before giving each bite.

3 During play time, stack blocks with your child. Ask, "How many red blocks are in this tower?" Then, build another tower and see which one is bigger!

4 While cleaning up toys, encourage your child to count the toys while putting them away. "Let's count your toys! 1...2...3..."

5 While removing items from your grocery bag, ask your child to count how many items are remaining. "I just took out milk and rice. How many items are left in the bag?"

6 Snack time is math time! "There are three grapes on your plate. How many grapes will you have if I give you two more?"

7 Go on a walk around the neighborhood with your child! As you walk, say "How many leaves can you find on the sidewalk?"

8 Talk about your job or workers you see out and about! What is the construction worker building? How does a firefighter help people?

9 As you do laundry, play a game of finding the matching pairs of socks with your baby.

10 Ask questions about your child's art. You can say, "I noticed you used the color blue. Why?"

11 Turn on your baby's favorite songs and move your bodies as you dance together!

12 Talk with your child in your native language. Speaking together in two or more language builds your baby's brain.

13 Have fun pretending to move and sound like different animals. "Rabbit and hop like a frog" or "chirp and flap your wings like a bird"!

14 Cuddle and share a story about your childhood. It's a great way to bond with your baby.

15 Celebrate the things that make your child unique! Create a song with your little one about what makes her special and sing it together.

16 Use mealtime as an opportunity to support your child's early math skills. Ask, "How many crackers are on your plate?" or "Which apple is bigger? Biggest?"

17 Go on a number hunt! Take turns pointing to and naming the numbers you see on signs, in books, or at the store!

18 Use stories to spark creativity and imagination. During story time, ask your child, "What do you think will happen next?"

19 Give your baby age-appropriate art materials like chunky crayons and paper to create art together.

20 Laughing is an important part of learning! Play fun games like "peek-a-boo" or sing funny nursery rhymes.

21 Go on a "shape hunt" with your little one. Search for different shapes in your home and around your neighborhood.

22 Talk about clothing and the weather. "What do we wear when it is cold? Warm?"

23 Talk about shapes as you eat healthy and yummy snacks! Compare the shape of a square cracker or a round tomato!

24 Talk with your child about the weather each day! What do they see in the sky when it is sunny, cloudy, or rainy?

25 Talk about colors and clothing. Say, "I noticed you're wearing a red shirt and blue pants. What colors am I wearing?"

26 Establish a consistent family routine, like eating meals together as often as possible. This strengthens family bonds.

27 Use words to describe time with your child as you do different activities. Was the walk long or short? Do you like long walks or quick walks?

28 When you go on a walk with your baby, count the trees, leaves, cars, or animals that you see.

29 Use colors to express feelings! Encourage your child to scribble or draw a picture using colors to show how he is feeling. Talk together about the colors and feelings.

30 Spending time drawing and coloring with your child can develop her creative, motor, and language skills! Ask her to draw their favorite food or animal!

