

#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 To build your little one's imagination and social-emotional skills, talk about how you feel while looking at art! "This painting makes me happy! What do you feel?"	2 There's art all around us! Go on an "art search" with your little one and talk about the art you find!	3 Have your little one scribble over a piece of paper. Together, color in the shapes within the scribble! "What color do you want to use? I'll use purple!"	4 Something as simple as a cardboard box can turn into so many new things! With your little one, use crayons to turn an old box into a car or a house!	5 With your child, talk about your favorite color, then go on a color hunt to find the color out and about! "My favorite color is green! Where can we find the color green?"	6 When your child makes art, take a moment to talk about his creation! "I love the colors you chose! Can you tell me about your drawing?"
7 For a fun activity, have your little one fold a piece of paper! What shapes can you make together? "We just made a triangle! What else can we make?"	8 Talk about clothing and the weather. "What do we wear when it is cold? Warm?"	9 Turn on your baby's favorite songs and move your bodies as you dance together!	10 Laughing is an important part of learning! Play fun games like "peek-a-boo" or sing funny nursery rhymes.	11 Have fun playing outdoors with your baby and talking about what you see together!	12 Talk with your child about the weather each day! What do they see in the sky when it is sunny, cloudy, or rainy?"
13 Go on a "shape hunt" with your little one. Search for different shapes in your home and around your neighborhood.	14 Talk about water on a rainy or snowy day! What does water feel like? Taste like? Sound like?"	15 Have fun finding things of different sizes and using words to describe them Ask, "Can we find something big? Humongous? Small? Tiny? Short? Tall?"	16 Use mealtime as an opportunity to support your child's early math skills. Ask, "How many crackers are on your plate?"	17 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!	18 At the grocery store, give your baby an apple to hold in each hand. Ask, "Which is heavier? Which is lighter?"
19 Give your baby age-appropriate art materials like chunky crayons and paper to create art together.	20 Play "I-Spy" by taking turns naming and describing the things you each see. Say, "I spy with my little eye...a big red truck. You?"	21 Grow your baby's vocabulary by using big words like "humongous" or "gigantic" instead of "big."	22 Use stories to spark creativity and imagination. During story time, ask your child to make up and tell you a story of her own!	23 Use colors to express feelings! Encourage your child to draw a picture using colors to show how he is feeling. Talk together about the colors and feelings.	24 Talk with your baby about his day! Ask them what he did, how he felt, and what he wants to do tomorrow!
25 Go on a number hunt! Take turns pointing to and naming the numbers you see on signs, in books, or at the store!	26 As you do laundry, play a game of finding the matching pairs of socks with your baby.	27 Practice saying and spelling your child's name with them! Write it out and trace the letters together, or spell out their name in a song!	28 Talk about shapes as you eat healthy and yummy snacks! Compare the shape of a square cracker or a round tomato!	29 Talk with your child in your native language. Speaking together in two or more language builds your baby's brain.	30 Cuddle and share a story about your childhood. It's a great way to bond with your baby.

