

# #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 #TalkingIsTeaching.

**1** Talk with your child while doing laundry together! Ask, "Can you find two pieces of clothing that are the same color? What color are they?"

**2** Find different objects in your kitchen. Ask your little one, "Can we sort these together by size? Which ones are big? Which ones are small?"

**3** Go outside with your little one. "Can you find two leaves that are the same size? What about the same color?"

**4** Talk with your child at meal time. "What colors do you see on your plate? What other foods are those colors?"

**5** Work with your little one to sort crayons or markers by different sizes. "Which crayons are taller? Which crayons are shorter? How do you know?"

**6** As you and your child walk down the street, can you find the letter A? What about the letter B? See how many letters you can find.

**7** Practice "sorting" words together that rhyme - "Let's play the rhyming game. Cat, rat, sat...all rhyme with mat!"

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

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

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

**11** 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.

**12** Talk about water on a rainy or snowy day! What does water feel like? Taste like? Sound like?

**13** 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?

**14** Use your senses to explore the environment around you! What do you see? Hear? Smell?

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

**16** Have fun finding things of different sizes and using words to describe them. Ask, "Can we find something big? Humongous? Small? Tiny? Short? Tall?"

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

**18** 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!

**19** 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!

**20** 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?"

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

**22** Establish a family routine, like eating meals together. This strengthens family bonds and can boost your baby's social-emotional development!

**23** Use stories to spark imagination. During story time ask, "What do you think will happen next?" Or ask her to make up and tell you a story of her own!

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

**25** Talk with your baby about his day! Ask them what he did, how he felt, and what he wants to do tomorrow!

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

**27** Have fun playing outdoors with your baby and talking about what you see together!

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

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

**30** When you read together, let your baby help turn the pages—it can help build their interest in books.

