

# #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** In springtime, animals and bugs come out to play. Talk about the sounds that they make! "The bird goes tweet tweet! The bee goes bzz bzz!"

**2** With spring comes rain! Rainy days are a great time to talk with your little one. Ask, "What does the rain feel like? Why does it rain?"

**3** Springtime brings about many different colors! Look for different colors outside with your little one. "Can we find something that's green? The grass and leaves are green!"

**4** Have fun drawing and counting with your child! Together, draw flowers with different numbers of petals, and then take turns counting how many petals are on each flower!

**5** On warm days, go outside with your little one and talk about the weather. "How does the sunshine feel?"

**6** As you help your little one get dressed in the morning, talk about the weather and clothing. "It's going to be warm today! Should we wear a heavy coat or a light shirt?"

**7** Springtime fruits and veggies are delicious and nutritious! Talk about the taste and color of foods: "This strawberry is bright red! How does it taste? Is it sweet? Sour?"

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

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

**10** 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?"

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

**12** 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!

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

**14** During bedtime, talk with your baby about your favorite parts of the day.

**15** 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?

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

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

**18** Your baby loves to hear your voice. Talk, read, and sing together every day.

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

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

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

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

**23** Grow your baby's vocabulary by using big words like "humongous" or "gigantic" instead of "big."

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

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

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

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

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

**29** 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?"

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

