

# #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.

- Let's look at a book together. What do you see on the cover? What colors do you see? What pictures?
- When you read a story together, make predictions with your child. Ask, "What do you think will happen next? Why do you think that?"
- Let's go to the library! Let your little one choose a book to read together.
- Words are all around us! Go on a walk and ask, "How many signs can we find to read? How many words do you see?"
- Let's write a story together! "What happens first in our story? What happens next?"
- Let's do a picture walk of a story together. "Look at the pictures. Without reading the words, what do you think is happening on this page?"
- Talk to your child about the books you have read together. "Who is your favorite character in a story? Why is that your favorite character?"
- 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!
- 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!
- 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?"
- Celebrate the things that make your child unique! Create a song with your little one about what makes her special and sing it together.
- Establish a consistent family routine, like family game night, as often as possible. This strengthens family bonds and can boost your baby's social-emotional development!
- Use stories to spark creativity and imagination. During story time, ask your child, "What do you think will happen next?"
- Talk about clothing and the weather. "What do we wear when it is cold? Warm?"
- Talk with your baby about his day! Ask them what he did, how he felt, and what he wants to do tomorrow!
- Laughing is an important part of learning! Play fun games like "peek-a-boo" or sing funny nursery rhymes.
- Have fun playing outdoors with your baby and talking about what you see together!
- As you do laundry, play a game of finding the matching pairs of socks with your baby.
- Give your baby age-appropriate art materials like chunky crayons and paper to create art together.
- When you read together, let your baby help turn the pages—it can help build their interest in books.
- Cuddle and share a story about your childhood. It's a great way to bond with your baby.
- When you go on a walk with your baby, count the trees, leaves, cars, or animals that you see.
- Grow your baby's vocabulary by using big words like "humongous" or "gigantic" instead of "big."
- At the grocery store, give your baby an apple to hold in each hand. Ask, "Which is heavier? Which is lighter?"
- Turn on your baby's favorite songs and move your bodies as you dance together!
- Your baby loves to hear your voice. Talk, read, and sing together every day.
- Go on a "shape hunt" with your little one. Search for different shapes in your home and around your neighborhood.
- Talk with your child in your native language. Speaking together in two or more language builds your baby's brain.
- Ask questions about your child's art. You can say, "I noticed you used the color blue. Why?"
- During bedtime, talk with your baby about your favorite parts of the day.

