

# #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** Share a story with your little ones about their grandparents. Where are their grandparents from? What did they do when they were younger?

**2** Encourage your child to ask their grandparents or family members about their childhood. "What did you like to play when you were my age?"

**3** Let's read a book together! Ask your grandchild, "Will you show me your favorite book?"

**4** Draw a picture of your family with your grandchild! Share a special memory of each person in the picture.

**5** Sing your favorite song together! Teach your grandchild a song that you enjoyed when you were little.

**6** Find photographs of your child's grandparents or family relatives. Name the people in the photographs and talk about them with your child.

**7** Cook together! Share your favorite family recipe with your grandchild. Talk about the different flavors and colors in the food!

**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 scribble or 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 consistent family routine, like family game night or eating meals together. This strengthens family bonds and can boost your baby's social-emotional development!

**23** Use stories to spark creativity and imagination. During story time, ask your child, "What do you think will happen next?" Or ask her to make up 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.

