

#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.

- Go outside with your little one. Ask "How does it feel? is it hot or cold? Can you feel any wind?"
- Look up at the sky and ask, "What do you see in the sky? How many clouds can you count?"
- Draw a picture together of a sunny day. Then draw a picture of a stormy day. Ask, "What's different between these pictures?"
- Talk about the different clothes we need in different kinds of weather. "What clothes do we need in the cold? What about in the rain?"
- On a rainy day, sing songs like, "Rain, rain, go away!"
- Let's be meteorologists! Ask, "What's the weather today? What do you think the weather will be like tomorrow?"
- Talk to your child about the different colors in a rainbow. Make a rainbow together using crayons, paint, markers or even playdough!
- 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?"
- Talk with your child about the weather each day! "What do they see in the sky when it is sunny, cloudy, or rainy?"
- 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!"
- Talk about your job or workers you see out and about! What is the construction worker building? How does a firefighter help people?
- 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.
- Talk about water on a rainy or snowy day! What does water feel like? Taste like? Sound like?
- 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?
- Use your senses to explore the environment around you! What do you see? Hear? Smell?
- Go on a number hunt! Take turns pointing to and naming the numbers you see on signs, in books, or at the store!
- Have fun finding things of different sizes and using words to describe them. Ask, "Can we find something big? Humongous? Small? Tiny? Short? Tall?"
- Talk about colors and clothing. Say, "I noticed you're wearing a red shirt and blue pants. What colors am I wearing?"
- Talk about shapes as you eat healthy and yummy snacks! Compare the shape of a square cracker or a round tomato!
- Spending time drawing and coloring with your child can develop her creative, motor, and language skills! Ask her to draw her 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 routine, like family game night or eating meals together 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?" Or ask her to make up and tell you a story of her own.
- Talk about clothing and the weather. "What do we wear when it is cold? Warm?"
- Talk with your baby about his day! Ask him 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.

