

#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 <i>Moo! Quack!</i> Make animal sounds with your little one and take turns guessing what animal you are pretending to be.	2 Go outside with your little one and play a "Animal I-Spy!" You can say, "I spy an animal with brown feathers and wings. It's a bird! What do you spy?"	3 Let's play zoologist! Go on a walk with your little one and look for signs of animals, like tracks or birds' nests.	4 Encourage your little one to think about what it would be like to be different animals. You can ask, "What would it be a like to be a dog? A giraffe?"	5 Let's sing together! Sing songs about animals (like "Old MacDonald") with your baby.	6 Play Simon Says with your little one with animal moves. You might say, "Simon says jump like a kangaroo! Crawl like a cat!"
7 Head to the library with your child to check out books about different animals. You can choose a new animal to learn about together each week!	8 Have fun playing outdoors with your baby and talking about what you see together!	9 Grow your baby's vocabulary by using words like "humongous" or "gigantic" instead of "big."	10 Talk about shapes as you eat healthy and yummy snacks! Compare the shape of a square cracker or a round tomato!	11 Give your baby age-appropriate art materials like chunky crayons and paper to create art together.	12 When you go on a walk with your baby, count the trees, leaves, cars, or animals that you see.
13 Your baby loves to hear your voice. Talk, read, and sing together every day.	14 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?"	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 Celebrate the things that make your child unique! Create a song with your little one about what makes her special and sing it together.	17 Have fun finding things of different sizes and using words to describe them. Ask, "Can we find something big? Humongous? Small? Tiny? Short? Tall?"	18 Cuddle and share a story about your childhood. It's a great way to bond with your baby.
19 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.	20 During bedtime, talk with your baby about your favorite parts of the day.	21 Laughing is an important part of learning! Play fun games like "peek-a-boo" or sing funny nursery rhymes.	22 As you do laundry, play a game of finding the matching pairs of socks with your baby.	23 Use stories to spark 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!	24 Go on a number hunt! Take turns pointing to and naming the numbers you see on signs, in books, or at the store!
25 Talk with your child in your native language. Speaking together in two or more language builds your baby's brain.	26 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?"	27 Talk about clothing and the weather. "What do we wear when it is cold? Warm?"	28 Celebrate the things that make your child unique! Create a song with your little one about what makes her special and sing it together.	29 Talk about water on a rainy or snowy day! What does water feel like? Taste like? Sound like?	30 Talk with your baby about his day! Ask them what he did, how he felt, and what he wants to do tomorrow!

