

#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

During your bedtime routine, talk with your child about what you loved most about the day. "I loved snuggling with you while we read!"

2

Start a morning routine with words of affirmation! Encourage your child to say aloud all the things that they love about themselves. "I am strong. I am kind. I am loving!"

3

Validating your child's big feelings is an important way to show your love for them. "I see that you're sad about your broken toy. I know you really loved that toy. How can I help you feel better?"

4

Ask your child to tell you what makes them feel loved. A warm hug, snuggles before bed, sharing a favorite treat - there are so many ways we can show our love every day!

5

Draw a big heart on a piece of paper and have your child fill the heart with drawings of things they love. Then, ask your child to tell you all about what they filled their heart with!

6

What is your favorite love song? Hold hands and dance with your little one as you sing it together!

7

Together with your child, finish the classic "Roses are red, violets are blue..." poem by coming up with your own words for the next two lines. "New, shoe, two... what other words rhyme with blue?"

8

At the grocery store, give your baby an apple to hold in each hand. Ask, "Which is heavier? Which is lighter?"

9

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

10

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!

11

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

12

Establish a consistent family 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!

13

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

14

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

15

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

16

Talk about shapes as you eat healthy and yummy snacks! Compare the shape of a square cracker or a round tomato!

17

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?"

18

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

19

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"!

20

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

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

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

23

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?

24

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

25

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

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

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

28

As you do laundry, play a game of finding the matching pairs of socks with your baby.

29

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

30

Talk about water on a rainy or snowy day! What does water feel like? Taste like? Sound like?



**TOO SMALL
TO FAIL**

