

Talk!

Children learn language and vocabulary by listening to others speak. Hearing and speaking are the first steps toward reading!



What Color Is The Sky?

As you take a walk around the neighborhood, talk about all of the wonderful things you see.

Point and look at the sky. “What color is the sky?”

Look at the trees. “What color are the leaves? How does the bark feel?”

Talk about a stop sign. “What is that? What color is it? What is that word on the sign?”



Talk!

Having children think up their own endings to stories helps develop their imagination. Being ready to learn includes creativity.



What If...

What if...

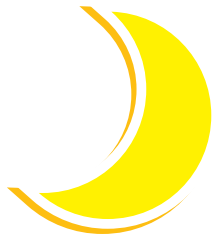
...You could jump as high as the moon?

...You lived on a cloud?

...You were as tall as a tree?

...You were as small as an ant?

Encourage your child to use his/her imagination!



Talk!

Helping your child to put words to feelings develops vocabulary in a meaningful way. You can talk about your child's feelings as well as your own. Children can understand the words long before they can say them.



Talk About Emotions

Use the pictures to talk about emotions.

When do you feel sad, mad, happy, etc?

What makes you feel frightened and surprised?

What makes you feel better when you feel sad or mad?



Talk!

You don't actually need to read books aloud to your children in order for them to benefit. Simply looking at and talking about the pictures in books helps children develop vocabulary. It can be as simple as talking about the colors.



What Is This?

What is this?

What color is it?

Where do we see this?

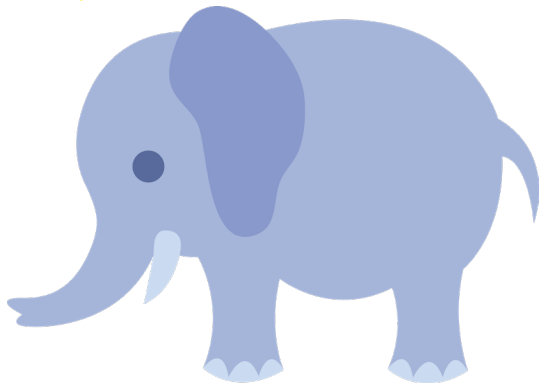


What is this?

What color is it?

What sound does it make?

Tell a story about the elephant.



Talk!

Rhymes can help children look a bit more carefully at the natural world around them. Take the opportunities that rhymes offer to have conversations with your child.



Talk About Turtles

This rhyme gives you a chance to talk about turtles.

I had a little turtle. (make a fist)

He lived in a box. (outline box shape with fingers)

He swam in the water (make swimming motions)

And he climbed on the rocks. (make climbing motions)

He snapped at a minnow. (make a grabbing motion)

He snapped at a flea. (make a grabbing motion)

He snapped at a mosquito (make a grabbing motion)

And he snapped at me. (make a grabbing motion)

He caught the minnow. (clap cupped hands)

He caught the flea. (clap cupped hands)

He caught the mosquito. (clap cupped hands)

But he didn't catch me! (point to yourself)

