



Talk About What Could Happen Next

Young children tend to talk about the here and now. However, having conversations about the future exposes children to more advanced language. Here are some fun tips for talking about what could happen next:

Play Time

Set up a pretend birthday party for a toy animal or doll. Have the child draw on their own experience with birthday parties to plan what will happen at the party (e.g., who will come, what games will be played, what food will be served, etc.). Then, have the pretend party together!



Daily Activities

While looking out the window, talk about the weather and what the child may experience when they go outside. For example, “Look at the trees swaying. It’s so windy! What do you think will happen to your hair when we go outside?”

On the Go

While on a walk, if you see a new construction site, ask the child to predict what will be built. Then, elaborate on the child’s prediction. For example, “If it’s an ice cream store, we’ll be able to get ice cream on our way home.”

Book Reading

Before sharing a new book, talk about the title and the picture on the cover. Have a conversation about what might happen in the book. The possibilities are endless! After reading the book, compare the child’s predictions to what actually happened in the story.



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