



Find Times to Talk Throughout the Day

The best way to build a child's language is to have conversations whenever you're together. Children who have more conversations with adults develop better language skills and are more successful at school. Here are some fun ideas for you to try:

Play Time

When playing with pretend food, join in the play. If the child is mixing food in a bowl, get your own food and bowl and say, "I'm making pasta. What are you making?" Wait for the child to respond and then, say something back. If they are making soup, say, "Your soup smells delicious!" Pause once again for a response.



Daily Activities

When you and the child are getting ready to go outside, watch and listen for what they do or say. Then, comment on what they have said or shown interest in. For example, if the child puts on their shoes quickly, respond with, "You put on your shoes so quickly, respond with, "You put on your shoes so quickly! You're faster than me!" Wait without speaking to see what the child says next.

On the Go

While out on a walk, talk about what you see. For example, you can look up at the clouds say, "That cloud looks like a dragon!" Wait a few seconds for the child to respond. If they don't respond, point to another cloud and ask, "What do you think that cloud looks like?" Wait to give them a chance to think and reply.

Book Reading

When reading together, pause after you turn the page during an exciting part of a book. Simply wait for the child to react to what they see. When they point or say something, respond with a comment that's related to what the child said and wait again. Watch as the interaction takes off!



Notes