

Talking Tips For Tiny Tots

BY 2 1/2 YEARS

UNDERSTANDS

- Understands more complex language than she uses
- Understands words that describe (hot, big, little, sticky, wet, a little, a lot, more)
- Puts objects “in,” “on,” or “under” when asked
- Finds common objects and points to pictures when asked: “Show me the brush”
- Remembers and understands familiar stories

EXPRESSES

- Uses more than 350 words
- Uses some adult grammar: “Two cookies,” “Bird flying,” “Daddy’s car”
- Starting to say 3 or more words together
- Uses “I,” “You,” “Mine” and “Me”
- Uses words to answer “What” and “Where” questions
- Uses a variety of consonant sounds: p, b, m, n, t, d, w, h
- Uses action words: run, spill, fall

THINGS TO TRY

- Repeat what your child says in a short sentence with correct grammar. If your child says: “I see truck,” you say, “I see a big truck.”
- Make play fun! Use your child’s energy to practice following directions. (“Clap your hands.” “Jump up and down.”)
- Describe things you see or feel (rough, soft, heavy, empty, full, same, different).
- Read books together. Children like lift-the-flap books, and touch-and-feel books.
- Play pretend with your child (tea parties, firefighter, house)!

PLAY

- Enjoys being around children, and takes short turns with them using both toys and words
- Puts together pretend actions (e.g. wash a doll, then dry it off, and then put it to bed)
- Likes to play dress-up and act out things she sees you do (cook, brush hair, feed baby)

WATCH OUT FOR

- A child who is not combining words
- A child who is very difficult to understand, even for her parents
- A child who appears to be losing the ability to talk
- A child who doesn’t pretend

TEACHABLE MOMENTS

- Listen to music and move around the room. Talk about your actions (spin, dance, jump, hop, skip, over, under, around).
- Craft time! Create art work together with paint, glue, crayons, and play dough. Talk about what you are making.
- Encourage your child to play with other children (playgroups, park, library).

DON'T WAIT AND SEE!

If you have any questions or would like more information, call

1-888-503-8885

or visit www.language-express.ca



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