

Talking Tips For Tiny Tots

BY 3 YEARS

UNDERSTANDS

- Understands same/different, one/all, heavy/light, night/day
- Understands “who,” “what,” “where” and “why” questions
- Can find items that belong together (e.g. clothes, food)
- Can solve simple puzzles (“Your hands are dirty. What should you do?”)

EXPRESSES

- Says 4-7 words in a sentence (“I want my red ball”)
- Asks “Who?” “What?” “Where?” and “Why?” questions
- Can talk about something that happened in the past (trip to Grandma’s)
- Can tell a simple story
- Adults outside your family understand at least half of what your child says.
- Can clearly make these sounds in words: p, b, m,n, h, w, d

THINGS TO TRY

- Read rhyming books and say nursery rhymes. Play rhyming games like: mat, bat, cat, hat.
- Describe things in sentences (“I am really hungry,” “That’s a HUGE bite!”).
- Repeat what the child says, using correct sounds and sentences (Child: “Me want doose.” Adult: “I want juice too. I like juice.”).
- Talk about the ways things around you are the same/different. Sort things using colour, shape, size and location.
- Give your child lots of chances to choose (“Do you want a pear or an apple?” “Do you want to wear the red shirt or the blue shirt?”).

PLAY

- Begins to play co-operatively with other children
- Enjoys short periods of pretend play (playing house or shopping or pretending to be Mommy/Daddy)

WATCH OUT FOR

- A child who drools a lot or who is a very messy eater
- Periods of stuttering lasting longer than 3 months
- A child who rarely makes eye contact and avoids being with others
- A child who is very difficult to understand, even for his parents

TEACHABLE MOMENTS

- Point to the words as you read to your child.
- Ask your child to be your “helper” and give him small jobs to do.
- Read books with pictures and take turns telling stories about the pictures.
- Play make-believe with or without toys (pretend to go shopping, play dressup, play with pretend toy garages, doll houses or kitchen sets).
- Sort pieces of clothing while doing the laundry together (sort by colours, to whom it belongs, types of clothing).

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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