

Come Talk With Me



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From Your Audiologist

- Make sure you keep your child's hearing aid or cochlear implant in the dry and store daily.
- Spend time this summer teaching your children how to take care of hearing aids, BAHAs, and cochlear implants.
- Remind your children of the importance of keeping their equipment in a safe place. Avoid leaving your equipment out in the open where it can become lost or damaged.

Words Matter

During the month of May we celebrate Better Speech and Hearing Month. We look forward to the end of another school year and we anticipate the arrival of summer. Build your child's summer vocabulary by extending word knowledge: sport, baseball, bat, tag, out, field, fishing, rod, pole, reel, hook, bait, skunked, swimming, life-preserver, water wings, raft, float, underwater, breath, dive, whistle.

Younger children enjoy family outings. Make sure your child knows where and why you are going to a location. For example, say to your child, "We will be going to Griffith Park on Saturday with your cousins. We will rent bicycles." You build your child's vocabulary when you use specific words.

Watch a kid's YouTube video **with your child** about a sporting event. For example, watch a player slide into first base. Talk about the video. By using words about what you are watching together, your child learns new words by taking turns talking with you.



Parent Strategies

Play games together. Games are great ways to support your child's language development.



This month we encourage you to talk about upcoming family events with your child before the day of the actual event. For example, talk about next week's trip to the beach. List all of the items that you will take to the beach. Encourage your child to help you remember the list. On the day of the trip, remind your child of your earlier conversation. Have your child help you remember all of the items that you plan to take to the beach.

Compare and contrast real-life events. For example, older children could discuss similarities between baseball and basketball. Encourage your child to make statements about what is common between the two sports and what is different. If your child has difficulty, provide assistance by starting the conversation. State, "I know that both sports have teams."

Read On!

- [Froggie Plays T-Ball](#) by Jonathan London
- [Don't Throw it to Mo!](#) by Mo Jackson
- [Catching the Moon: The Story of A Young Girl's Baseball Dream](#) by Crystal Hubbard
- [Mama Llama Learns to Swim](#) by Anna Dewdney
- [Jabari Jumps](#) by Gaia Cornwell
- [Emmanuel's Dream](#) by Laurie Ann Thompson and Sean Qualls



Supporting your child's literacy development

- If your toddler avoids book time, consider collecting a set of small toys that are represented in pictures in storybooks. For example, if you want to read the story, [Are You My Mother?](#) collect a set of story objects, such as a small plastic bird, a boat, a dog, a hen, and a cat. Match the objects to the pictures in the book. Start story reading by interacting with objects that are associated with a story.
- Encourage older children to read for information. Ask your child to read a recipe and make a list of the ingredients you need to purchase at the store. Ask your child to read for information on the grocery store's weekly ad. Ask your child to find out the amount of money that is needed to purchase two avocados.



Let's Chat

Tell a family story about an event that occurred last summer. Incorporate the use of **irregular past tense verbs** as you narrate your story. For example, "Do you remember our trip to the beach last summer? We **went** to the beach last summer. While we were at the beach, we **saw** a volleyball game. We **made** a sand castle."

School age children begin writing stories during their first grade year. Storytelling prepares a child for writing. Talk about an upcoming event. Start a story by stating, "Next week we **will be going** to John's baseball game." You will be helping your child learn how to tell a story, which in turn helps your child write a story.

Help your child increase the ability to use not with the following verbs: ask, tell, know that, and think. By modeling, "I **did not tell** him that he could play at the park," you support your child's language development.

Social Stars

- As summer approaches, consider increasing the amount of time you spend reading aloud to your child. Use good pacing and interesting intonation. Encourage your child to read to you. Help your child remember that it is also important for him to remember to use good pacing and interesting intonation.
- Use a trip to the movies or an evening at home watching a television show with your teen as a conversation starter. Discuss character actions, problems and solutions together.

