

Come Talk With Me



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From Your Audiologist

- This holiday season, don't forget your mini mic, Roger equipment, or other remote technology for family gatherings to help your child stay connected during group conversations.
- When eating out or visiting relatives, consider the child's listening environment. Ask to be seated at a table away from distractors such as music or background noise.
- When riding the Metro or any rail transit, sit close to your child and pull out those remote mics.

Words Matter

In the month of November, we are getting ready to travel and spend times with our loved ones. As we think about all the things we are grateful for, let's also take the time to think about the act of transportation. Thematic vocabulary for this month can include: travel, journey, motion, voyage, trip, exploration, visit, steer, transport, turbulent, smooth, direction, quickly, commute, subway, transit, and tunnel.

- This year, the greatest number of Americans will be traveling during the holidays. Use this as an opportunity to review these terms with your child. As you are riding in the car, label things as you see them. For example, point to all the cars on the 110 freeway and make a comment about the people that commute to work daily. For older children, point out the directional feature on the car and asked your child which direction you are traveling in.



Parent Strategies

- To help build your child's vocabulary, replace known words with unfamiliar words. For example, if your child knows the word – "car," teach them synonyms such as "sedan," "vehicle," or even the make of a car – "Toyota," "Honda," etc.
- When driving in a car, label the names of roads and highways you are traveling on and use directional words. For example, "In a minute we will turn right on Figueroa." Have your child watch for the street sign.
- Take time to tell a story about a favorite family member. Encourage your child to ask them a question when they see the family member at the next family gathering.



Read On!

- Mike Mulligan and the Steam Shovel by Virginia Lee Burton
- If I Built a Car by Chris Van Dusen
- Duck in a Truck by Jez Alborough
- Go, Dog, Go! by P.D. Eastman
- The Little Dump Truck by Margery Cuyler
- Little Blue Truck by Alice Schertle
- Airport by Byron Barton



Supporting your child's literacy development

Encourage your children to think about their reading while they are reading. Good readers monitor their own understanding of the story. For example, ask your child to read a chapter of a storybook. Tell your child to think about how the character is changing as they are reading the chapter. Then ask your child to describe how the character changed. Listen for your child to incorporate ideas that are supported by the author's text.

Model for your child the think-aloud. Show your child what good readers do by using language that describes your thinking. You can state, "This reminds me of a time when we _____," or "What's happening in this book is just like what's happening _____."

Help your child understand the importance of the text. "I see a lot of information in this paragraph. I need to read it again, and then I will decide which parts of the text are important and which parts of the text are interesting."



Let's Chat

- Practice using the adjective "thankful" to help build your child's understanding of what it means to appreciate a person, thing, or event. By modeling the use of "thankful" in questions and in sentences you are helping your child develop the flexibility of the meaning and use of the word.
- Help your child increase the complexity of statements that include time relationships by stating "before" at the beginning of a sentence. For example, "Before I go to the market, I will write a list of items we need to pick up." "Before you eat dinner, wash your hands." Create opportunity to have your child construct their own "before" statement. This can be done by prompting your child by asking him or her a question. For example, "What are you going to do before school today?"

Social Stars

- Encourage extended family members to play "peek-a-boo" with your infant. Encourage grandma to start the game by covering her eyes and stating, "Peek-a-boo, grandma sees you."
- Model how to take conversational turns at the dinner table with your family before you gather together for Thanksgiving. For example, "Would you like gravy?" "Can I have turkey?" and "No thank you, I don't like cranberry sauce."
- Give your child strategies and rehearse questions to ask visiting relatives at Thanksgiving. For example, "I've missed you because I have not seen you for a long time," "How are you doing?" "Happy Thanksgiving," and "Has anything special happened to you since the last time I saw you?"

