



lets talk!

| Play Talk

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## Techniques for using play talk with children

Parents speak to their children in the language they speak best.

Parents add new information to their conversations with children.

During bath time, Mom says, “Ducks like the water, too!”

Parents say the names of things children point to, when children don’t yet have the words.

At the supermarket, Dad says, “Those are carrots. They are crunchy and orange.”

Parents talk with their children about things that are not in front of them.

While cooking, Mom says, “We are making soup for Dad to eat tonight.”

Parents keep a conversation going with their child by asking questions.

Child says, “I goed park.” Parent says, “Oh, you went to the park. What did you play on?”

Parents repeat and imitate their baby’s cooing and other noises.

While her diaper is being changed, parent repeats baby’s noises, and says, “I know, you’re happy to have a new diaper!”

Parents say the “grown up” version of what a child says.

Child says, “Milk.” Parent says, “Do you want more milk?”

Parents use O.W.L.

- **Observe** (what your child is doing, then ask a question)
- **Wait** (for an answer)
- **Listen** (to what your child has to say, then keep the conversation going)