



If you would like any information or advice about your child's talking, please contact **Children's Centre Speech and Language Therapy:**



phone

0203 316 1897

Useful Websites:

www.talktoyourbaby.org.uk

www.talkingpoint.org.uk

www.hello.org.uk

All children learn to talk at slightly different speeds.
The information in this leaflet is only a guide.

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Help your child to talk A Parent's Guide

Ten Top Tips for Talking



Ten Tips for Talking

Learning to Talk — A Summary

- 1 Try having a **special playtime** every day with toys
- 2 Help your child to listen by **turning off the TV** and music during playtime.
- 3 **Sit near** your child and **join in** her play.
- 4 **Wait** for your child to start the talking. Listen carefully and **take turns** to talk.
- 5 Sometimes **repeat** what he says & **add** another word, e.g. Child: "Look cat"
Adult: "Yes, the cat's running."
- 6 **Talk about** what your child is doing when she plays, brushes her teeth, gets dressed etc.
- 7 Help your child to learn new words by giving him **choices**, e.g. "apple or banana?"
- 8 When your child says something incorrectly, **say it back the right way**. Do not ask your child to repeat it.
- 9 **Praise** your child, adding specific words. E.g. "good tidying", "well done for sharing".
- 10 Have fun with **songs and nursery rhymes**. Do the actions with your child.

Age	Understands	Talking	Play
1	I know my own name I understand a few simple questions, E.g. "Where's your cup?"	I point to tell you what I want. I may say one or two words. I make lots of baby sounds like "ba-da-goo" and can copy your sounds.	I like toys that can move and that I can put in my mouth.
2	I can understand lots of single words and some instructions with two main words.	I can say lots of single words and sometimes join 2 words together. My words are not clear. I use these sounds in words: "m" "n" "p" "b" "w" "t" "d"	I like to play next to other children. I copy things I see at home.
3	I can understand instructions with three main words and the idea of "big" and "little", "hot" and "cold".	I can use 2 words and maybe 3 words in a short sentence. My words are still not clear. I use more sounds in words: "k" "g" "f" "s"	I am starting pretend play. I take turns with toys
4	I can understand instructions with four main words. I know when you talk about things in the past or the future.	I can use complete sentences and ask lots of questions e.g. "why?" Longer sentences means I may make mistakes in my speech. I am using "sh" and "ch" in words	I play pretend games with other children for 10 mins