



Kid Talk!

SPEECH TO HOME CONNECTION
NURSERY & KINDERGARTEN



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Talking Tools

Talking Tools are a set of tools that parents can use to help develop their child's speech and language skills. A child with strong speech and language skills will become a better reader and writer.

"Talking Tools" can be used at any time, in any order. Try one out while doing an activity such as the craft below! Here are two:

1. "Repeat your child's sentence and add to it" You can help your child use longer sentences by repeating what he/she says and adding one new word. For example: If he says "I see a dog" you say "I see a BIG dog!".

2. "Show you are listening" Children learn good communication skills from parents. Show your child he/she is important by stopping what you are doing, getting down to his level, making good eye contact, and responding to what he is telling you.



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Scissors, Glue and Animals too!

1. Using coloured paper, cut out various sizes of hearts. (Paper colours don't have to match the sample pictures).
2. Have your child create an animal. It can be like the ones in the sample pictures or something they have made up.
3. You can glue on "googly" eyes or simply draw the eyes with a marker.
4. Have your child tell you about what they made.

WORDS TO USE:

cut, glue, shapes, circle, heart, one, two, three, face, foot, feet, nose, ears, eyes, black, white, orange, pink
(Include the colours that your child used).





ABC's of Vision and Learning

When should my child's eyes be tested?

- It is recommended that all children have a complete eye exam by age 3; preferably as early as 6 months and again annually (once a year) through-out their school years.

Why are eye tests so important and basic for learning?

- Sometimes a child who appears to have normal vision will have only one properly functioning eye. The other "lazy" eye may look normal, but may not be "working". The problem is often easily corrected if detected at age 3 or 4, but almost untreatable by age 8 or 9.
- Even if both eyes focus well, they may not coordinate.
- Adjusting focus from far to near is important for learning. A child who is not able to maintain focus up close, may have trouble with reading.

Who should I take my child to see?

- Vision testing in young children does not require letter recognition or clear communication.
- Children's eye exams/check-ups are **FREE** once every 2 years up to 18 years of age, or more often if recommended by the optometrist.
- To find an optometrist near you visit: www.optometrist.mb.ca/childrens-vision.cfm

OR Call : (204) 943-9811



Is for **Annual**



Is for **Basic**



Is for **Check-Ups**

Why Pretend Play is Important

Pretend play builds skills in 3 main areas:
Friendship, Language, and Imagination.

Through play with other children, kids learn how to take turns, share, problem solve, and practice their speech and language skills (through talking!).

Pretend play helps your child understand the power of language.

During pretend play your child gets the chance to act out real life experiences. Teach him/her new words during play time.

Here are some ideas of things that your child might enjoy using for pretend play:

- ◆ Old clothes, shoes, purses, hats
- ◆ Old cell phones, phone books, magazines
- ◆ Wooden spoons, plastic dishes, recyclable food boxes, etc.
- ◆ Stuffed animals and dolls of all sizes



Contact your school SLP if you have any questions.