



Kid Talk!

SPEECH TO HOME CONNECTION
NURSERY & KINDERGARTEN



APRIL 2019



THIS ISSUE:

Talking Tools	1
Alphabet Sound Book	1
Can you hear what I hear?	2
Best Toys for speech & language	2

Talking Tools

Parents can use *Talking Tools* to help support their child’s speech and language development. Children who have strong speech & language skills will be better readers and writers. Each *Kid Talk* Newsletter will feature 2 *Talking Tools* that you can practise with your child.

These **“Talking Tools”** can be used at any time in any order:

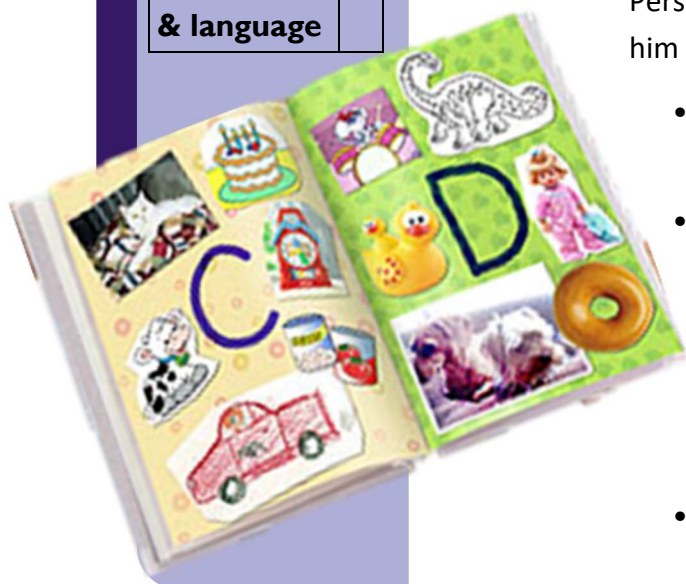
“Talk about what you see” When you’re out with your child, take the time to explain all of the exciting things that you see. See it, name it, describe it!

“Wait a few seconds before you reply to what your child says” - Make sure you give children enough time to think about what they are going to say. Waiting gives children an opportunity to say more (and practise using more language).

Alphabet Sound Book

Create an alphabet book! Using full pieces of paper, staple the corner or fold pages in half and staple along the folded edge to make a book. Personalize the title page by having your child draw or glue a picture of him or herself on the cover.

- Beginning with letter A— encourage your child to copy a large letter in the middle of the page. Provide help as needed.
- Cut out pictures from newspapers, magazines, flyers, old catalogues, or have children draw or print pictures from the internet. Pick pictures that start with the sound that the letter makes. For example, Letter **C** will have pictures of things like: cat, cake, cow, car, clock, and can. Letter **D** will have words like dog and doll etc.
- Emphasize the sound that the letter makes at the beginning of the word. E.g. Car and cake both start with the **“C”** sound (make the hard C sound).



WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION

Clinical Support Services
Department of Communication Disorders



Have you Heard...?



When should my child's hearing be tested?

- History of ear infections
- Family history of hearing problems
- Doesn't respond when name is called
- Many sound errors (hard to understand) or delayed talking (after age 2)
- If your child is Nursery age or younger and has any of the above noted concerns
- All children (preschool or school age) should have their hearing tested at least one time to make sure it is adequate for learning

Why is hearing important for learning?

- Children who can't hear well may have difficulty learning to speak.
- Children learn language by hearing and practising sounds and words.

Where can I take my child to have a hearing test?

- If your child is in Nursery School or younger, **FREE** hearing tests are available through *Specialized Services for Children & Youth (SSCY)*. Discuss a referral with your Family Doctor or call (204) 258-6547 for more information or to book your own appointment.
- If your child attends school within the *Winnipeg School Division* (Kindergarten to grade 12), **FREE** hearing tests are available. Discuss your concerns with your child's school.



The Best Toys for Speech and Language Development:

The best toys are ones that encourage your child to talk.

For babies and toddlers (under 4): stacking cups, wooden blocks, balls (all different sizes and colours), shape sorters, and toy phones.

For 5—7 year olds: play kitchens, baby dolls, toy grocery cart, vehicles (cars, trucks, tractors, & trains), play farm, action figures.

It's important that children use their imagination during play!

Words to use when playing: *in, on, over, under, beside, behind, up, down, bottom, top, stack, build, fall.* Shape words: *circle, square, triangle, oval, rectangle,* etc.

When using a play phone give children the words they would need to have a conversation "Hello? Oh, hi Grandma! How are you?"

