

South Tees

TALKS

Let's connect

South Tees Talks is a programme which has been launched in partnership with Speech and Language UK to help children develop their talking and understanding of words.

Every time you spend time with your child talking and doing things, it builds connections in their brain. The more often you talk, the stronger these connections grow, and the easier they'll find it to think, talk and learn.



In partnership with
Speech and Language UK
Changing young lives.



Stockton-on-Tees
BOROUGH COUNCIL



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Top tips

- Your baby is always listening and learning, even before they are born. They like the sound of familiar voices, and hearing your voice in the womb helps them recognise you when they arrive in the world.
- Talking to your baby in your home language will help to make strong foundations for any language that they might learn through their life.
- It is never too early to share songs and stories with your baby and they will be comforted by rhythm, rhyme and your voice.

Did you know?

Our Family Hubs offer a range of free sessions and activities to support your child's speech development, and our libraries across the Borough run Rhymetime sessions.



For more information and advice, please visit:



facebook.com/RCBCFamilyHubs



redcar-cleveland.gov.uk/family-hubs

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It takes two!

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When you talk to your little one, do things where you take turns and copy each other. Taking turns as you play together is like taking turns in conversations. The more turns the better the conversation and this really supports your child's brain development too!



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Top tips

- When your little one is in their car seat or pushchair, they love to hear your voice. Talk to them even if they can't always see you, the words are all going in.
- Copying the sounds and actions that your child makes will help them start to understand how to take turns in conversations.
- Children don't always need toys to play – 'peek-a-boo' and 'eye-spy' are great for helping them learn to take turns and use new words.

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Ditch the distractions!

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Listening comes before talking. So hearing you clearly will help your child learn words.

Talking about what's happening around you helps your child understand more.



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Top tips

- When there are lots of background sounds around your child it is hard for them to listen, so turn down the volume or even better, turn it off!
- Laps are better than Apps for learning to talk. Have some time without devices so that you can sit together, focus on each other and talk.
- Your little one will like it to be just the two of you sharing a special toy or game as it helps develop their concentration.

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Let's play together!

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When you play together, follow your child's interests and let them take the lead. Let them show you what they like to do and how to do it in their own way, you will have fun together and your child will learn lots of new words.



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Top tips



- Your little one likes it when you join in and talk about what you are playing with as you play together; it helps them to hear, learn and understand new words.
- Children learn words for things they are interested in at that time – watch them carefully to see what they are doing and say the words while they are doing it.
- You are the best toy in the house, your child will learn more from you than any toy you can buy in a shop.
- Repetition helps them learn to do the same thing again and again and again.

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Songs and stories!

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Sharing songs and stories is a fun way to learn new words and develop your child's listening and attention skills.

The repetition, rhythm, and rhyme help to boost their talking and understanding of words.



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Top tips

- Talk to your child about the pictures in a book, you don't need to read the words. Looking at the pictures together can help build their vocabulary and link the words to the things you are looking at.
- Songs and rhymes repeat the same words over and over again, this repetition helps them know what you are going to say next, and they might just join in!
- Little ones like sharing books with you, when you focus on a story together it's a special time with you.

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