

Talk to Me!—set your baby up for SUCCESS!

1 The more talk the better.

The amount of talking your baby hears is more important than what you are saying. Babies, toddlers and young children should hear thousands of words each day.

2 Human interaction is best.

TV, screens or music do not replace parent or family member interaction with your baby for language development.



3 What an expert says:

Talking and singing to babies are the most important things for parents to do! Parent talk is the most valuable resource in our world. No matter the language, or the socioeconomic status, language helps develop the brain. In the same way, the lack of language is the enemy of brain development. (Dana Suskind-webaddress)

3



EARLY HEARING DETECTION
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4 Ready to Learn!

Talking to our babies gets them ready to learn and succeed in school and in life. **Reading...**

5 Ready to Go!

Kids who hear more words are more likely to do well in school, earn more money and be ready to learn and reach their goals.

6 Brain-building.

By the time your baby is 4, nearly 80% of his or her brain will be developed. When you talk, read, and sing to your babies and toddlers, you build their brains. This helps them to learn everything from creativity, problem-solving to reasoning and self-discipline.

7 Overcome adversity.

You can make a different by talking to your baby. On average, kids from lower-income homes hear **less than 30 million words by their fourth birthdays** than their higher income peers. This means they start kindergarten with less than 1/2 the words and may be more likely to fall behind in school. See the back of this sheet for great ways to talk to your baby!



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