


# #TALKINGISTEACHINGTIPS CHALLENGE

## TALK, READ, AND SING WITH YOUR BABY!

We're encouraging you to keep talking, reading, and singing to your baby during everyday moments. With simple actions like the ones below, you're helping boost your child's brain development and build their vocabulary, setting them up for success in school and beyond.

Join us for a 14-Day "Talking is Teaching" Challenge, where we are inviting parents and caregivers to complete one of the **#TalkingIsTeachingTips** every day! Let us know once you've completed the tip by commenting on our Facebook page, **Too Small to Fail**, or tweeting at **@2SmalltoFail** with the challenge hashtag, **#TalkingIsTeachingTips**. And don't forget to share your own tips, photos, and videos of talking, reading, and singing with your baby, too. Stay tuned – we'll share some of our favorites!

<p><b>While getting your baby dressed, have fun playing "Peek-a-boo" together.</b> Ask, "Where are you?" when you pull a shirt over your baby's head. Then say, "There you are!"</p> <p>1</p>	<p><b>Encourage creativity.</b> Make today an "art day" with crayons or washable paint. When your child finishes his art, ask him open-ended questions like, "Tell me about your drawing" or "Tell me about the colors you used."</p> <p>2</p>	<p><b>Turn wash time into talk time!</b> Say "I spy something blue and soft" or "spy" the bubbles as they spin around in the washing machine and talk about what you see.</p> <p>3</p>	<p>Did you know? <b>Your face is one of your child's favorite toys.</b> Take turns showing each other different feeling faces and use words to label them. "We're smiling because we're so happy! Can you show me a frown?"</p> <p>4</p>	<p><b>Silly songs capture attention.</b> Sing a silly song about your day using the tune of your favorite song at bath time or diaper changing.</p> <p>5</p>
<p><b>When you go food shopping, have fun talking about math with your child.</b> Point to and name different shapes you see or count the food items as you place them into your cart. Anytime is a good time to help your baby learn basic math words and ideas.</p> <p>6</p>	<p><b>Let's be scientists!</b> Play games during bath time to help your child experiment and learn new words. Take turns dropping toys in the water and ask, "Will the toy sink? Will the toy float? What do you think will happen if we fill the toy with water?"</p> <p>7</p>	<p>Sing "Old MacDonald" with your child, and change the words to animals or objects you see in your home or neighborhood. <b>Take turns picking animals to sing about!</b></p> <p>8</p>	<p><b>Let's talk about food!</b> As you feed your baby, ask questions like, "What does it taste like? Feel like? Look like?" You might say, "This yogurt is smooth." "That yellow banana is sweet!"</p> <p>9</p>	<p><b>During bedtime, hold your baby close and sing a lullaby together.</b> Close, loving bonds between babies and their parents build a foundation for lifelong support and learning.</p> <p>10</p>
 <p>11</p>	<p>While walking or driving down the street together, <b>talk to your baby about the traffic lights you see at the crosswalk every day.</b> Red means "stop," green means "go," and yellow means to "slow down."</p> <p>12</p>	<p><b>Inspire imagination and a love for stories at an early age.</b> Take time to read or make up a story every day with your child. As he or she gets older, take turns telling stories to one another about his or her favorite characters from books and shows.</p> <p>13</p>	<p><b>Everywhere you go, use words to talk about what you see and what your baby is looking at or pointing to.</b> For example: "Wow, I see the four furry dogs, too!" "I love that red truck you're playing with. It goes beep beep!"</p> <p>14</p>	<p><b>Sing songs that have basic counting or rhyming patterns</b> like "One, two, buckle my shoe. Three, four, open the door." This can help your child learn to count.</p>

