

CONVERSATION CONNECTIONS

Handout for **EARLY CONVERSATIONS**

Serve and Return
Turn-taking Conversations
are the best nutrient for growing language.

- **Tune in**
- **Talk more**
- **Take turns**

30 Million Word Project

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzWJknjQRGDfLylQEoHfeQ>

- Self talk
- Parallel Talk
- Wait and See
- Modelling
- Expansion & Recasting

Talking Matters, UA/FTF

<https://slhs.arizona.edu/community/parents-other-professionals> Strategies--

- **Look**
- **Follow**
- **Chat**
- **Take Turns**
- **Stretch**

VROOM

<https://www.vroom.org/>

Talking Matters: 5 Strategies for Enhancing Speech-Language Skills

1. Self talk – about what **you** are doing
2. Parallel Talk – about what the **child** is doing
3. Wait Wait Wait & See - what your child will say.
4. Modelling –
 - show & say what you want the child to do & say before (Good morning, Mr. Jones), &
 - restate, correcting language errors
“The sheeps goed to the stream” →
“Yes, the sheep went to the stream. ”
5. Expansion & Recasting – lots of synonyms and more questions
 - *“I wonder if they were sweltering hot or parched and thirsty? Did they want a chilly freezing ice-cold bath or a refreshing cool drink? What did they do next?”*

Talking Matters, UA/FTF

Synonym Substitute Suggestions for Expansion and Recasting

- Big: large, huge, enormous, tremendous, jumbo, monster
- Little: tiny, teeny, small, compact, mini, miniature
- Good: excellent, great, wonderful, marvelous, fantastic
- Bad: poor, awful, terrible, lousy
- Soft: mushy, doughy, gooey, spongy, squashy, smooth
- Hard: firm, stiff, rigid, tough, strong
- Tall: high, lofty, towering
- Small: tiny, petite
- Car: automobile, vehicle, motor vehicle
- Fun: enjoyment, entertainment, amusement
- Happy: cheerful, merry, jolly, gleeful
- Sad: sorrow, gloomy
- Cold: cool, chilly, bitter, freezing, raw
- Hot: warm, humid, boiling, tropical
- Smart: Clever, bright, brilliant, wise

These were found years ago at <http://preschoolers.about.com/od/learningeducation/qt/vocabtip2.htm> and <https://www.verywellfamily.com/how-to-build-a-childs-vocabulary-2765147> but these links no longer work. Author unknown.

GREAT RESOURCES re EARLY CONVERSATIONS:

Make Way for Books: <https://makewayforbooks.org/> Get their amazing must-have app.

Thirty Million Words: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzWJknjQRGDfLLyIQEoHfeQ>

Vroom: <https://www.vroom.org/> A wealth of conversation tools & tips for parents of infants and children. Their intro:**Brain Building Basics** at <https://youtu.be/WQNm4ASB7iY>

Talking Matters: <https://slhs.arizona.edu/community/parents-other-professionals> Strategies—

Three Core Concepts in Early Development, Center on the Developing Child at Harvard.

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL0DB506DEF92B6347> videos

Serve and Return as Play Jack Schonkoff, M.D., Center on the Developing Child at Harvard.

<https://developingchild.harvard.edu/resources/building-babies-brains-through-play-mini-parenting-master-class/> video

From Cries to Conversations: The Development of Communication Skills from Birth to 3,

<https://vimeo.com/130344328> <https://vimeo.com/130344328> By ZEROTOTHREE. video

Talk with me Baby <https://coxcampus.org/course-talk-with-me-baby/>. Early childhood professionals engaging parents in conversations with their infants video

Language and Early Literacy Development – multiple blogs & videos on FTF’s website.

https://www.firstthingsfirst.org/resources/language-and-literacy/?utm_source=First+Things+First+mailing+list&utm_campaign=b76c73ef83-February+2020+Latest+Things&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_ab57e3d95b-b76c73ef83-9145795

Effective Teacher-Child Interactions by Teachstone <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Hw0DbxOmJQ>

Checking for Quality Teacher-Child Interactions by FTF <https://youtu.be/CUViSwMWvLk> videos

8/19/2024 Dorothy Johnson, MD, FAAP, Consultant, Center for Neurosciences Foundation.

Each Brain Matters <https://www.eachbrainmatters.org/> See *Education and Library*.