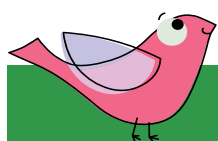


# Talk Together TIMES

ACTIVITIES

4-5  
YEARS

From day one, EVERYDAY CONVERSATIONS WITH YOUR CHILD  
LEAD TO READING LATER ON.



NEWS  
FLASH

SMALL TALK EQUALS BIG LEARNING

## AMAZING BUT TRUE

### You Can Teach Your Child to Read Without Turning a Page

Reading street signs, labels, and even cereal boxes introduces the idea that letters and words are everywhere. Reading signs and words together helps prepare your child for reading and school.



## DID YOU FEED YOUR CHILD ENOUGH WORDS TODAY?



Just as feeding your child healthy foods nourishes the body, speaking with your child feeds the brain. Research shows that back and forth conversations can help children develop larger vocabularies by age two.

## DON'T WAIT FOR SCHOOL

### Start Today for Success Tomorrow

Research shows the more words a child knows, the more likely they are to have success in school and future learning. The more you talk with your child, the more they learn.



READING TO YOUR CHILD  
EVERY DAY HELPS PREPARE THEM  
TO READ, WRITE, AND LEARN.

## BELIEVE IT OR NOT

### YOUR CHILD LEARNS MORE LANGUAGE TALKING WITH YOU THAN FROM WATCHING TV

Before the age of two, children need you, a real, live person to talk with them using full sentences. Even if they can't speak, they are listening and learning.

## BREAKING NEWS



## YOUR CHILD IS READY TO LEARN ANY LANGUAGE FROM BIRTH

Talk to your child in the language you are most comfortable using. This helps set the stage for future learning in any language.

FOR MORE ALL THE Way to K AND BEYOND TIPS VISIT

Children's Museum of Manhattan [cmom.org/AllTheWayToK](http://cmom.org/AllTheWayToK)

NYC Department of Education Pre-K for All [schools.nyc.gov/earlychildhood](http://schools.nyc.gov/earlychildhood)

NYC Administration for Children's Services <https://tinyurl.com/ACSECE>

Funding by W. K. Kellogg Foundation  
and the Meringoff Family Foundation



# Talk Together TIPS

ACTIVITIES  
**4-5**  
YEARS

Talk to your child in the language you are most comfortable using.



Everyday conversations lead to reading later on!



PASTA.

## WHAT'S FOR DINNER?

Have your child draw the foods you will eat for dinner and then write the names of the foods for your child. Matching words with pictures helps prepare your child for reading.

## MY NAME

Encourage your child to write the letters in their name. Your child is developing hand-eye coordination needed for writing, and learning to match sounds with letters.



MY NAME IS  
D-A-V-I-D.



SHE LOOKS  
HAPPY!

I WONDER  
WHY?

## FACES AND FEELINGS

While looking at pictures of people in magazines or books, ask your child how they think the person is feeling. Describing how others feel can help your child learn to express their own emotions and build their vocabulary.

## MYSTERY ENDINGS

Make up stories together. Take turns imagining what comes next! Telling stories together can help your child remember details, develop their imagination, and practice listening skills.



...AND THEN  
THE DOG ATE...

...ALL THE COOKIES!

I HAVE TWO GRAPES  
AND YOU HAVE ONE.



WE HAVE  
THREE GRAPES!

## SNACK COUNTER

Make a game out of snack time. Count pieces of fruit together. Using number words to talk about objects helps children understand important math concepts.

# Talk Together TIPS

ACTIVITIES  
4-5  
YEARS

Everyday conversations lead to reading later on!

BONUS ACTIVITY

## PUPPET PLAY

Use a paper bag or sock to make puppets together. Help your child use their puppet to express emotions and practice creating and telling stories.



## WORDS ON THE GO

Look for words that begin with the first letter of your child's name. Recognizing letters and words is an important step toward reading.



I SEE  
A  
BEAR!



I SEE  
A  
CAR!

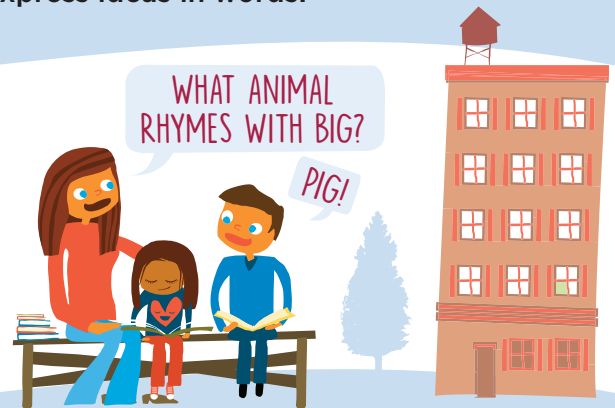


## CLOUD CONVERSATIONS

Take turns telling stories about the shapes of clouds to help your child use their imagination and express ideas in words.

## RHYME TIME

Singing songs and playing rhyming word games can help your child hear and remember the sounds that make up words, an important step toward reading.



## NEWS FLASH

Talk about what your child is looking forward to doing each day and who they might see. This can help develop important skills like making predictions and describing future events.



## MY LOCAL LIBRARY

Encourage your child to pick out their own books at your local library. This helps increase their interest in books and love of reading.

I LIKE THIS BOOK ABOUT BUGS!



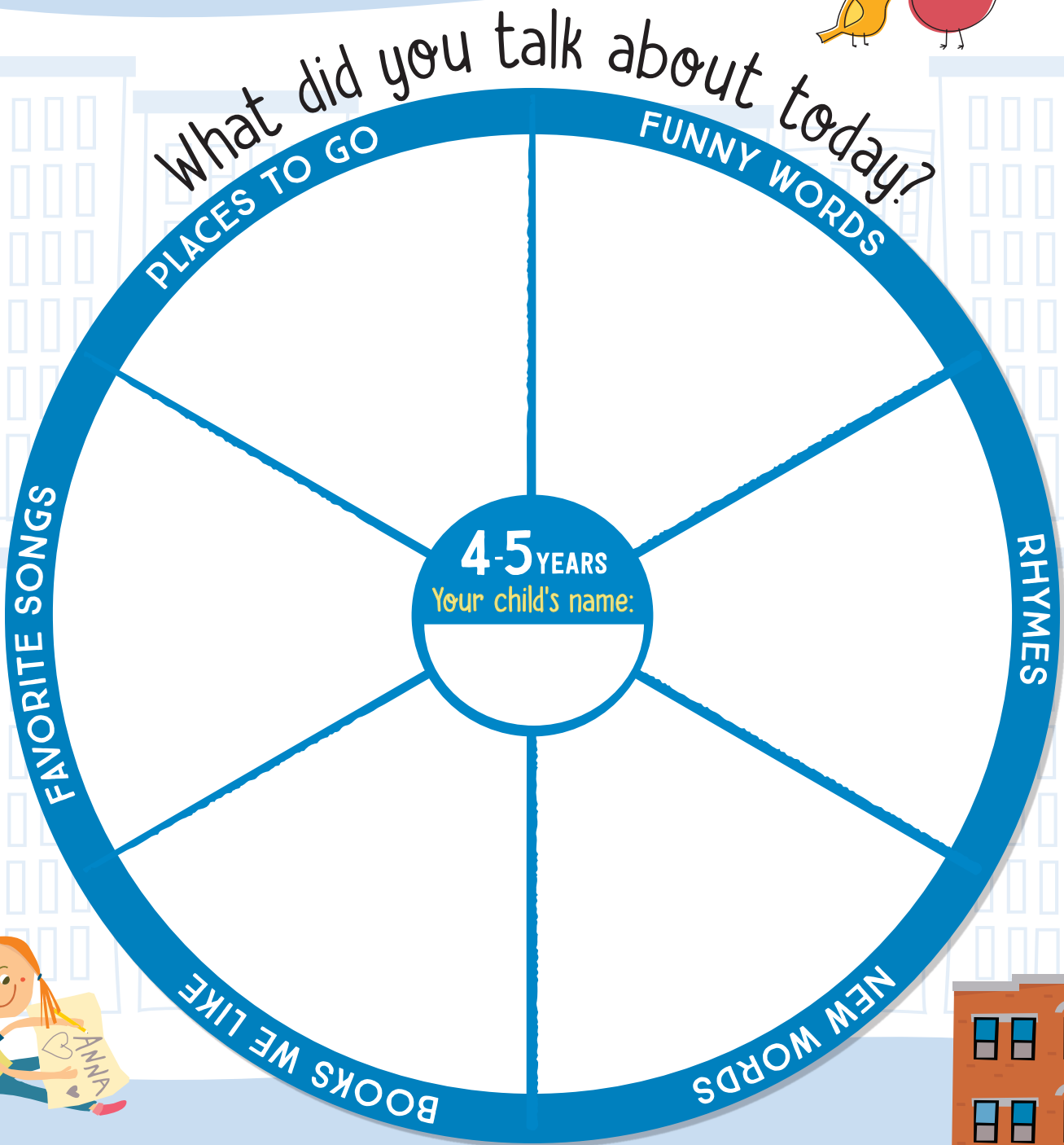
Children's Museum of Manhattan

# Talk Together TIPS

ACTIVITIES  
**4-5**  
YEARS

Every child learns  
at their own pace.

Everyday conversations lead to reading later on!



FOR MORE ALL THE Way to K AND BEYOND TIPS VISIT:

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Special thanks to the W. K. Kellogg Foundation and the Meringoff Family Foundation





Almost Ready to  
**READ & WRITE**

**5**  
YEARS

Recognizes  
signs and words  
everywhere

Understands that  
letters make up words

Makes up  
stories

Learns that stories  
have a beginning,  
middle and end

Memorizes  
simple stories

Begins to match  
sounds with words

Tries to spell words  
using sounds

May attempt to  
read and write  
own name

Practices pointing  
to words while  
reading

**4**  
YEARS

All children  
learn at their  
own pace.

Matches some sounds  
with letters

Asks "when" and  
"why" questions

Uses rhyming  
words

Matches words  
with pictures

Acts out  
stories

Scribbles  
to pretend  
to write

**3**  
YEARS

Points to  
pictures in books

Learns new  
words daily

Pretends  
to read

Speaks in longer  
sentences

Recognizes  
some letters

**2**  
YEARS

Uses short  
sentences

Follows simple  
instructions

Speaks  
first words

Holds  
books

Waves  
"bye-bye"

Points and  
gestures

**1**  
YEAR

Makes sounds

Makes eye  
contact

Coos and  
babbles

Copies facial  
expressions

Combines sounds  
"ma-ma, da-da"

Responds  
to own  
name

**BIRTH**

**ROAD TO  
READING & WRITING**

Look at the amazing language growth  
happening from birth-5 years old.

Created by the  
**Children's Museum of Manhattan**