



# Talk Spot

Infants begin to participate in conversations long before they are able to speak. Talking to them as part of their daily routine is one of the best ways to encourage early language development. Parents can do this by creating a **Talk Spot**.

A **Talk Spot** is anywhere you can communicate face-to-face with your infant. This could be in the car, in the park, at bedtime: anywhere you can be together without the distraction of a screen. Find yours, use yours, and set your baby up for learning success.

Learn more at [speechandhearingbc.ca](https://speechandhearingbc.ca).



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Infants begin developing language skills at birth. By listening to their parents, caretakers and the people around them, they pick up an extraordinary amount of information, including vocabulary, non-verbal cues and grammar.

### How can you have a Talk Spot with your baby?

One of the easiest ways to communicate with your baby is to talk about what is happening around you. Whether you are changing their clothes, moving to a new room or strapping them into their car seat, explaining the world is a great way to help your baby become familiar with common words and phrases.

- While changing your baby, you can say "I'm taking off your pants" or "you have a blue shirt".
- When carrying your baby to a different room in your home, you can say "I see your ball", "let's go play with your car" or "we can go get your snack in the kitchen".
- While strapping your baby into the car seat, you can say "we buckle up in the car".
- While driving in the car, you can say "look, the dog is barking" or "I see big trees".

### Tracking baby's development

Every child develops at their own rate. If your child does not have all of the same skills as their peers, this is not an immediate cause for alarm. However, if you find that your baby's development seems stalled or if your baby has had problems with multiple ear infections, it is worthwhile to reach out to a licensed speech-language pathologist or audiologist.

**Speech-language pathologists (SLPs)** are registered professionals who can diagnose and treat disorders of speech, language, hearing, voice, swallowing, fluency, and social communication.

**Audiologists** are registered professionals who specialize in diagnosing and treating hearing impairments. They can determine if problems with hearing are contributing to a child's difficulty with speech and language development.

Some services are government funded and available free of charge and others require payment.

You can find developmental milestones for babies and young children at [speechandhearingbc.ca](https://speechandhearingbc.ca).



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