

TALK TIME

BOSTON, MA



In Otter Words

A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



SUMMER PARENT MODULES ARE COMING!

June 1st is tomorrow and that means our summer parent modules are open for enrollment! These modules are more than just a "course". These are intimate, small group sessions led by a licensed SLP where you can ask questions and share your experiences with other parents.

We designed these modules with three values in mind: education, empowerment, and community. Each course consists of four virtual sessions, each an hour long, filled with information, video examples, and time for discussion. And each session will provide you with an easy-to-understand packet for your reference once the course is over!

Choose the course that's right for you:

Birth to Birthday and Beyond. Great for expecting parents and parents with children up to 9 months old.

Talking with Your Toddler. Great for parents with children 9 months to 36 months old.

Check it out today on our website!

Alessandra Spaulding
Executive Director of Talk Time Boston

Monthly Highlights

New Blog Post:

Let's Say Stutter 5/14/2022

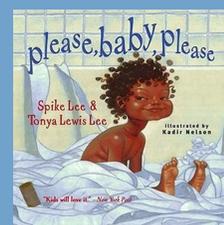
Let's Discuss:

Story Grammar
Instagram Post 5/3/2022

Babbling
Instagram Post 5/25/2022

Book of the Month:

Please Baby Please
Spike Lee & Tonya Lewis Lee





ARE YOU A FOLLOWER?

We have tons of FREE information for parents and caregivers on our Instagram account:

@TALKTIMEBOSTON



If you enjoy our posts and reels, please like, comment, share, and save our posts to help us grow!



STRATEGY Spotlight

CHOICES

WHAT WE TEND TO DO:

As parents, we often find ourselves asking a lot of questions during play. These can be especially difficult for kids who are already struggling with expressive communication.

WHAT TO DO INSTEAD:

Give your child two options when you ask a question. This is called a "structured context" and is much easier for early language learners.

What do you want - apple or banana?

Who should tuck you in - mama or mommy?

When do you want snack - now or in five minutes?

BENEFITS:

- 1 GIVING CHOICES PROVIDES A *model* FOR YOUR CHILD TO IMITATE
- 2 IT REDUCES THE *pressure* TO COME UP WITH AN ANSWER
- 3 IT REQUIRES A *response* OTHER THAN "YES" OR "NO"
- 4 IT GIVES YOUR CHILD *agency* IN THE DECISION

Babbling OVERVIEW

Babbling is the production of syllables that contain at least one consonant and vowel. It typically contains the early sounds that your baby will use for their first words (e.g., m, p, d, b)

STAGE 1: Early Babbling (emerges 4-6 months)

Short syllables of one consonant and one vowel. (e.g., "ma", "ep")

STAGE 2: Canonical (Reduplicated) Babbling (emerges 7-10 months)

This is the repetition of the same consonant and vowel combination. (e.g., "mamamama", "doodoodoodoo")

STAGE 3: Variegated Babbling (emerges 10-12 months)

The combination of different syllables with a greater varieties of vowels and consonants. (e.g., "gabagaba", "peewooda")

POST BABBLING: Jargon (emerges 12+ months)

Toddlers use longer and longer syllable strings that mimic the intonation and sounds of their language. This is why some kids sound like they are talking but you can't pick out actual words.

Babbling is considered a precursor to expressive language. If you see a delay, a lack of, or low frequency of babbling, these are indicators of a potential speech and language difficulty (Earle & Lowry, 2015) and you should consult an SLP for an evaluation.

Check out the instagram post for video examples of each stage!

BABY TALK

If you are over on Instagram, you may have seen that my baby girl said her first word this month! Follow our journey on our account @talktimeboston in our new video series: Baby Talk. Episodes will demonstrate how I use parent strategies in action to support her growing language skills!

Who did the otter bring to the wedding as his plus one?

His significant otter!