

CONNECTING TOGETHER: IN CONVERSATION

Speaking for the Baby x SMS4dads Campaign

Babies learn to make sounds by practicing. They start with burbling and they pay attention when people speak to them. They learn to understand words long before they can say them. So, the more you talk to your baby, the faster they will learn to talk. That will help you a lot when they can tell you what they want.

You can talk with your baby about anything: describe what you are doing, tell them about your day, what you ate for lunch, chat about what you will do together on the weekend. They love to hear your words and to feel included in your life.

Creating conversations together helps baby learn about good conversations, taking turns to coo or speak, allows baby to be part of the action. Including baby this way, waiting for their response, having a back-and-forth conversation, helps socialise baby and is a great opportunity to share some connecting time together.

Talk with me, Dad!

I may not be able to talk yet but I love it when you talk to me. I smile when you smile and I love hearing your voice. Talk to me about anything dad.



**They were way behind
at half time and then...
Oh boy, you should
have seen it...**

I'm learning language, Dad!

I will listen to
your words and I
will try and make
some sounds like
you. I'm working
hard to learn how
language works.
Keep working
with me on this
dad.



Here comes the
apple! Nom nom
nom

Babies learn from singing too

When grownups hear music they have an emotional reaction. Babies do too. When dads sing to their baby they use a softer, more loving tone. When your baby hears you singing they connect to you with emotions, and that builds the trust between the two of you. Building the trust in your singing will be important when you are trying to calm them down with your voice.

It doesn't have to be a nursery rhyme song. When dads are singing to a baby, whatever the song, they use a different frequency and pitch. So you can try out your favourite tunes with your baby, great practice for the Karaoke nights later on.

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