The Importance of Talking

- Children develop language and other early literacy skills by listening to their parents and others talk.
- Listening to others talk allows children to learn new vocabulary and understand the meaning of the words they hear.
- Spoken language exposes children to the world around them and gives the background knowledge necessary to understand what they read.

Talking activities that prepare for reading

- As children explore objects, describe them and their uses.
- Increase vocabulary by adding new words to what your child says. For example: “Yes, that elephant is big. In fact I think that elephant is gigantic!”
- Give your child multiple opportunities to talk to you. Talk in the car, at the grocery store, at the doctor’s office, and at home.

10 Times to Talk With Your Child

1. Morning routines
2. Doing household chores
3. In the car
4. At the store
5. Waiting in a line
6. During bath time
7. Before a nap
8. Before bedtime
9. During meals
10. Out on a walk

Let’s Talk About....

- Talk about when they were little.
- Talk about what you’re doing as you go through your day.
- Talk about how they felt when they went down the slide.