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talking

1. Noun _____
2. Noun - Plural _____
3. Adjective _____
4. Verb - Present Tense _____
5. Noun - Plural _____
6. Pronoun _____
7. Proper Noun _____
8. Noun _____
9. Verb _____
10. Noun _____
11. Noun _____
12. Noun _____
13. Noun - Plural _____
14. Noun - Plural _____
15. Noun _____

talking

For babies, learning to talk is a two-way _____Noun_____: You talk, he mimics you (or at least mimics the _____Noun - Plural_____ he hears), and you continue the "conversation." But is there a right way to talk to your baby? "Parentese" -- that high-pitched, singsong way of speaking -- comes easily to some parents, while others may feel a _____Adjective_____ self-conscious. The good news? As long as you're _____Verb - Present Tense_____, your baby is listening. So no matter how you engage your little one (whether it's "Whose cute itty-bitty toes are these?" or " Look at these cute _____Noun - Plural_____!"), your baby will benefit.

Of course, his verbal ability will develop more quickly if you make a conscious effort to _____Pronoun_____ to him even when he's a newborn (even though it'll seem as if you're talking to yourself!). So, for example, if you're taking your baby to your parents' house, you could say, "Do you know where we're going? To _____Proper Noun_____ house! Let's bring your _____Noun_____ to Grandma's!" This will help you get into the habit of talking to your little one, even if he can't _____Verb_____ everything (at first!).

In fact, any conversation -- between you and your partner, even your end of a cell-phone chat -- can serve as an impromptu language lesson for baby. He'll pick up almost as much from secondhand dialogue as he will when he's getting all your _____Noun_____. But when you are talking to your baby, don't be afraid to give him a chance to answer -- even if it's a _____Noun_____, giggle, _____Noun_____, or sigh rather than words. Studies show that babies whose parents talk with them rather than at them learn to talk earlier.

Need more ideas for kicking off baby conversation? Let your imagination run free. Tell your little one stories from your childhood, give him some guided tours as you go on your _____Noun - Plural_____ (even if it's just to the kitchen to get a snack), give him a blow-by-blow of your favorite _____Noun - Plural_____. Just keep chatting, commenting on things around you, and asking questions, and one day your _____Noun_____ will surprise you by answering!

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