



Communication, Language, and Literacy Activity for 30 to 36 Months

Listening and Talking

Materials:

- None

What to do:

1. Help the toddler, who will tend to talk about the present with phrases like "Me want cookie," learn new words to talk about what she did in the past and will do in the future: "Yesterday you went down the slide at the park. That was fun." Or, "Tomorrow we're going to the store. You can help push the cart." Also, "Guess what? Tomorrow we are going to make play dough."
2. Talk about what happened during the day: "You had a busy day. This morning you and Sam played in the sand box. You ate a peanut butter sandwich for lunch. After your nap we went to the store. What else did we do?"
3. Talk about what you will do tomorrow: "I think it's going to be sunny tomorrow. What would you like to do?"

Variations:

- A. Talk about the day's events while eating dinner or at bedtime.
- B. Talk about what you are going to do next when sitting at the lunch table. "Soon, when we are through eating, we will put our napkins in the wastebasket and wash our hands."
- C. Talk about what happened that morning while eating lunch. He will learn the meaning of words such as "soon," "next," "first," "before" through discussions connected to easily recognizable activities.
- D. Talk about the weather, especially in connection with words like "today," "yesterday," "last week." You are connecting the passage of time to something more concrete and observable for a child.

