



Baby Talk: Resources to Support the People Who Work with Infants and Toddlers

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The Importance of Faces for Infants' Learning

Just like books are educational tools used to promote language development and reading, faces are also educational tools during the first year of life. Read more about the science behind this statement at <https://bold.expert/the-importance-of-faces-for-infants-learning/>

New Guidance on Low Birth Weight, Prematurity, and Early Intervention

The **Division for Early Childhood (DEC)** recently posted its position statement on low birth weight, prematurity and early intervention (<https://www.decdocs.org/position-statement-low-birth-weight>). The document covers available research on low weight preterm infants and the impact of evidence-based early intervention, as well as recommendations, including the case for a national standard of low birth weight being set below 1500 grams and 37 weeks for early intervention (EI) eligibility. An **executive summary** (<https://www.decdocs.org/executive-summary-low-birth-weight>) is also available.

Does Research Support a Link Between Smart Phone Use and Behavior?

Family members who spend a lot of time on their phones or watching television during family activities such as meals, playtime, and bedtime could influence their long-term relationships with their children. New research documents how "technoference" can lead children to show more frustration, hyperactivity, whining, sulking or tantrums. Learn more at <https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/06/180613102022.htm> or <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41390-018-0052-6>

What Do Babies Learn by Pointing?

In the first 18 months of life, children are going through a period of rapid growth. As their bodies and brains continue to develop, they are giving out not-so-subtle communication clues that caregivers may dismiss if they aren't paying close attention. New research suggests that caregivers can learn a lot just from an infant's single index finger point. **View a video with information about the findings in English or Spanish** at <https://www.childtrends.org/videos/wild-baby-talk-learning-by-pointing>

I Said I Want the Red Bowl! Responding to Toddlers' Behavior

Alex hurls a bowl of his favorite cereal off the table and screams, "I said the red bowl, not the blue bowl!" Seen through the eyes of the child, and through the lens of development, these behaviors, while maddening, are utterly normal, and signal important milestones are being achieved. Further, these incidents don't have to be dreaded, as they are opportunities to teach children to manage their emotions, learn to cope with frustration and disappointment, and find ways to feel in control of their ever-expanding worlds in prosocial, acceptable ways. Learn more from ZERO TO THREE's Claire Lerner at <http://www.pbs.org/parents/expert-tips-advice/2015/10/said-want-red-bowl-responding-toddlers-irrational-behavior/>

Baby Talk is a free, one-way listserv that is distributed monthly. Each issue features high quality, readily available, and free resources. Resources **highlighted in yellow** are available in English and Spanish. To join the listserv, send an email **with no message** to subscribe-babytalk@listserv.unc.edu

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Past issues of Baby Talk are archived at <https://buildthefoundation.org/baby-talk/> For more information, please contact Camille Catlett at camille.catlett@unc.edu