

MY FAVORITE TOYS TO PROMOTE LANGUAGE LEARNING

By Kimberly Scanlon, author of *My Toddler Talks* and *My Toddler's First Words*



These large play sets are perfect for children who are beginning to flex their pretend play skills.



Playing with Play-doh is such a blast! Squeeze, mold, and shape.



Trying to spin a top creates the PERFECT opportunity to encourage your toddler to request help.



Food sets provide ample opportunities to target both nouns and verbs.



This pet vet toy set is a great toy to elicit "help", "open", "turn", and even "It's stuck!"



Playing doctor is a fun way to role play and teach children how to use language in real life situations.



You'll be amazed at how many gestures and words toddlers will imitate from their parents when they play with dolls.



Such a fun way to target common first words like, "up", "down", "in", "on", "here", and "there".



Completing a puzzle with your little one is a great way to practice language skills.



The barn doors open and close, encouraging your child to knock and have the farm animals go in and out of the barn.



Entice your child to play outside by drawing on the driveway or sidewalks.



Bingo markers are easy for toddlers to hold and color with.



Toy kitchen sets provide realistic play that toddlers love.



The potato head teaches basic body parts by toddlers putting the pieces in and taking them out.



Train sets can range in intricacy, but they are perfect to practice action verbs like "Stop" and "Go".



Knock 'em down and stack 'em back up! Bowling pins can help elicit and model language.



Toddlers love pushing around cars and buses. Sing the song, Wheels on the Bus too!



Practice phrases like "Beep-beep", "Vroom, vroom", "Ready, set, go", "Up", "Down" "Fast" and "Slow".



I haven't met a toddler who doesn't LOVE bubbles. Great way to elicit so many words.



Keep it simple by rolling, bouncing, and gently tossing or throwing a ball to your toddler.

"It's a happy talent to know how to play."

- Ralph Waldo Emerson

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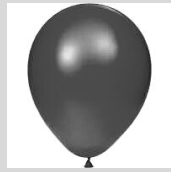
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About Kimberly Scanlon



I'm Kimberly Scanlon, a speech-language pathologist with over a decade of experience, an author of books to empower readers to facilitate language development, wife to a magnificent Renaissance man, and a mother of two adorable children. I'm also a coffee drinker, book reader, gratitude seeker, and collector of quotes. You'll see some of my favorites sprinkled throughout my books and this site. When I'm not working or writing or running my household or trying to stay organized or picking up crumbs and wrappers in the backseat of my car, I take a deep breath and pause for a moment. Life is good even with the bumps in the road.

"Change your thoughts and you
change your world."
- Norman Vincent Peale

Come see me at www.mytoddlertalks.com or www.scanlonspeech.com

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