Going New Places

Help your baby build connections and grow their brain for listening and spoken language. Providing meaningful listening and talking experiences every day can grow your baby’s future.

GOOD TO KNOW

It’s really good for your baby to be at home. There are a lot of listening and learning opportunities there. With so many words and sounds to notice, home really is your baby’s first classroom! But did you know that it’s also really good for your baby to experience listening and learning in other places?

When you take your baby with you to the places you go, they have the chance to experience new words and sounds. Maybe your baby already goes to daycare or to grandma’s house. Wherever you go, think about what you can do to help your baby learn new words and listen for new sounds.

TRY

For example, when you take a trip to the grocery store, there are many new sounds and objects for your baby to experience there. You can talk about riding in the cart, opening doors, naming foods, talking about the color, shape, or taste of foods, and waiting in line.

When your baby is riding, you can also play a “stop and go” game by stopping the cart, then starting again. Combine this motion with words, such as “1, 2, 3…go! Stop!” Then start again. This can become a really fun listening and language learning time.

OBSERVE

When you took your baby to a new place, what did they do? Look around? Smile and coo? Stop making sounds to listen? Get louder with their vocalizations?

REMEMBER

Most of the world is new for babies, and the more your baby can experience new places to hear and see, the more they learn.

By talking about what you see and what you’re doing, your baby will learn about that place and grow more vocabulary that leads to listening, talking, and reading.