



English Time at Home

Make English part of everyday life without turning it into a lesson.

Helps Your Child Grow



Vocabulary

Repeatedly hearing and responding to two or three high-frequency English words in familiar routines helps a child in a non-English-speaking family connect each word with an object, action, or setting.

Steps

- For a child learning English as an additional language, begin with useful words in a familiar routine rather than isolated memorization.
- At breakfast, point to familiar foods and name them in English: “We have milk, an egg, and bread.”
- Pair each word with the real item and repeat it naturally: “Is the egg tasty?” “Would you like more milk?” This helps connect the English sound with what is present.
- When the words become familiar, offer an English choice: “Would you like egg or bread?” A point, an answer in the home language, or an English word are all acceptable responses.
- Once a few breakfast words and phrases are comfortable, add useful English from another routine such as bedtime, getting ready to go out, or washing hands.

Tips

- Add a few useful phrases tied to real actions. Say “Here you are” as you hand something over, or “I want more” when asking for another serving. This connects English with actions, feelings, and results.
- A few phrases repeated in meaningful situations are more useful than many phrases at once.

Observations

- Responds appropriately to a growing number of English words
- Briefly remembers how the words you just said sound