Find the Silly Mistake

Listen for details that do not belong in a diary entry, then fix them.

Helps Your Child Grow



Attending and Understanding

Listening for an unlikely detail, explaining why it is wrong, and suggesting a correction gives your child practice understanding and responding to more complex spoken information.

Steps

- Write a short diary entry together and let your child use correction tape to fix details that do not make sense.
- Begin by writing the date and weather. Talk about what happened that day and add those events to the entry.
- Start with the morning and slip in one obvious mistake: “Dad took you to preschool. We rode a rocket and arrived with a whoosh!”
- When your child says, “We rode a bike,” show them where the incorrect detail is and let them cover it with correction tape.
- Add a few more playful errors as you talk and write, such as “It snowed today” or “You tumbled right outside the door,” and see what your child notices.
- Your child may begin inventing mistakes for you. Switch roles and become the mistake detective.

Tips

- If your child misses a detail, give a focused choice: “When we went outside, was it snowing or raining?”

Observations

- ○ Points out a specific detail in the diary that is incorrect
- ○ Independently notices more than one mistake in the diary