

Come Talk With Me

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USC Caruso Family Center
for Childhood Communication



From Your Audiologist

If you have acquired an FM system, make sure you utilize it in the car to help your child continue to receive auditory input during long drives.

For cochlear implant users in airports or areas with x-ray or metal detector checkpoints, alert security of the presence of the cochlear implant with your medical ID card.

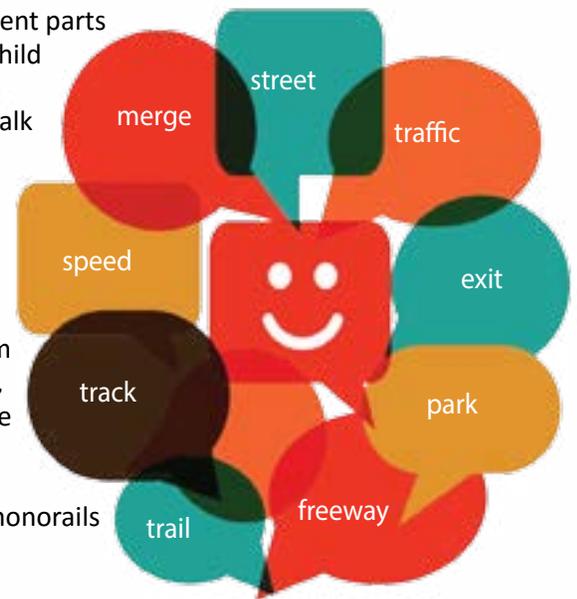
During outdoor hiking, bike riding, or boating, make sure you are equipped with your ear gear to help prevent moisture from getting into your device.

Words Matter

Let's get in motion this summer and talk about the ways we can be transported! Summertime is the best time to experience and see different ways people get around. Whether it is hiking up a trail, sitting in traffic, sailing the ocean, or flying in the sky, we all use different modes of transportation. Words to target for this theme could include: freeway, path, trail, traffic, merge, exit, lift off, brake, gear, sail, cruise, ramp, speed, turn, runway, train station, airport, park, engine, navigate, drive, and steer.

Teach your child about the different parts of a vehicle. This will help your child develop understanding of how vehicles function. For example, talk about the wheels on a car, point out the wings on an airplane, or show your child tracks by the road or Disneyland!

Help your child learn various vehicle names by categorizing them in a specific group. "Boats, ships, kayaks, and sailboats travel in the water," "Airplanes, helicopters, jets, and rockets fly through the air," and "Trains, subways, and monorails move on a track."



Parent Strategies

Please be advised, California car seat law states that "children under 2 years of age shall ride in a rear-facing car seat unless the child weighs 40 or more pounds OR is 40 or more inches tall. The child must be secured in a manner that complies with the height and weight limits specified by the manufacturer of the car seat. Children under the age of 8 must be secured in a car seat or booster seat in the back seat. Children who are 8 years of age OR have reached 4'9" in height may be secured by a booster seat, but at a minimum must be secured by a safety belt."

When you are out and about, acknowledge sounds or speech that you hear and point them out to your child. This can be done when discussing a vehicle sound in close proximity.



Read On!

If I Had a Little Airplane by Lawrence Di Fiori

The Journey Home from Grandpa's by Jemima Putley

Five Little Monkeys Wash the Car by Eileen Christelow

Yellow Copter by Kersten Hamilton

Transportation by Gail Gibbons

Locomotive by Brian Floca

My Bike by Byron Barton

A Sick Day for Amos McGee by Philip Christian Stead

Along a Long Road by Frank Viva



Supporting your child's literacy development

Strategies to support continued reading throughout the summer months:

1. Keep school year routines going over the summer months. Many schools ask children to keep a reading log. Encourage your child to spend time daily reading just as he or she did during the school year.
2. Connect summer read aloud book choices to scheduled summer activities. If you go camping, read books this summer about camping. If you plan a vacation to a destination, visit the website, <https://tarheelreader.org/> and find books about the location you are traveling to.



Let's Chat

For the young child, target usage of locative adverbs such as - there, here, outside, and up. Please note that these words express a location on their own. Model language with these concept for the child to imitate. Examples include: "The path is outside," "The airplane is going up" and "The exit is here."

Help your child learn how to ask questions to gain information. Include use of the following question form, "What is/what are...?" While teaching transportation words, help your child ask questions such as, "What is lifting off?" "What is that street called?" and "What is the name of the place where trains are?"

For the older child, help discuss past activities with using the past progressive verbs as in "was/were + verb +ing." For example, "The scooter was merging into the lane," "Mom was navigating the trip," and "They were speeding on the freeway." Encourage your child to keep a summer reading log.

Social Stars

In strengthening your child's auditory feedback loop, create opportunities throughout daily routines to use voice. Initiate these verbal exchanges using turn-taking, intonation, and pause time. For example, in greetings, opening the door, snack time, etc.

Help your child learn to make choices. When driving in the car, ask questions such as "Should we go right or left?" "Do we go on the freeway or the street?" or "Do we park our car on the driveway or on the street?"

When speaking to your child, pair new words with familiar words to support comprehension. For example, "The airplane is flying. We can also say that the airplane is soaring," or "We just climbed or hiked up that mountain."

