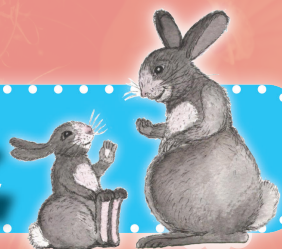


Happy Talk



Rhyme Time Voices and Games - What can we learn.

Rhymes help us introduce sounds and words to all children.

Tiny babies can learn the sounds in the languages of their home, when they hear songs and rhymes. Sing and say rhymes in every language you know! Can you remember the rhymes from your childhood? Share these with your kids!

Toddlers learn new words when we sing and say rhymes with them. Sometimes they learn words they might not otherwise hear e.g. Snoring! A 'Pail' of water! (What's a pail?) The clock struck one! (What does that mean?)

Kids learn how to match sounds and words, when they sing and say rhymes with us. These are skills that will help with learning to read and spell. Did you know, kids who know, and spend time singing and saying rhymes are better readers?!

We love rhymes in Happy Talk! We like to sing and say them every day!



Finger Tap Mindful Moment

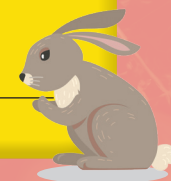
Get comfortable, stand or sit! Let's start by taking three deep breaths. Press the tips of your fingers together making a finger tent or arch. Start by tapping your two thumbs together 5 times, while keeping the other fingers still. Take a deep breath, and do the same with each finger, tapping each one 5 times, with a deep breath in between. When you get to your 'baby finger' / 'pinky' send the finger taps back to your thumb. Remind everybody, when you 'finger tap' your brain is connected to your fingers, and taking a break from everything else.



October 2025

M	T	W	T	F	S	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

● 27 Oct - Bank Holiday



For further information visit:
www.hse.ie/happytalk

Happy Talk

October 2025



Learning Language – Modelling

For the next few months we are going to learn (or relearn) some Happy Talk Skills. The first skill we're going to is: **Modelling!**

For the next few months we are going to learn (or relearn) some Happy Talk Skills. The first skill we're beginning to learn is: **Modelling!**

Modelling is when you show a child how to say it the right way. Modelling is a skill for us grown ups: we do the hard work!

When you use **Modelling** you show your child how to say:

A word they are still learning:
e.g. Child says: 'I runned up it.'

You say, 'Yes! You ran!
You ran around it!'



A word they don't yet know:

e.g. Child says, 'I want it. I want the yoke!'
You say, 'You want the basket.'

A word they say incorrectly:

e.g. Child says, 'Look at the tat!'
You say, 'Look at the cat!'
You can use **Modelling** for children of any age.

For tiny babies, we model how to use our faces and sounds by getting face to face!

For babies, we model how to use words, especially while we play, by saying words to match what they are doing.

For toddlers and pre-schoolers, we model how to use lots of words and any tricky sounds, by saying it again and/or commenting on what they are doing, while they are doing it.

For school-aged children, we model how to use grammar and lots of new words, by using new words and grammar lots of times.

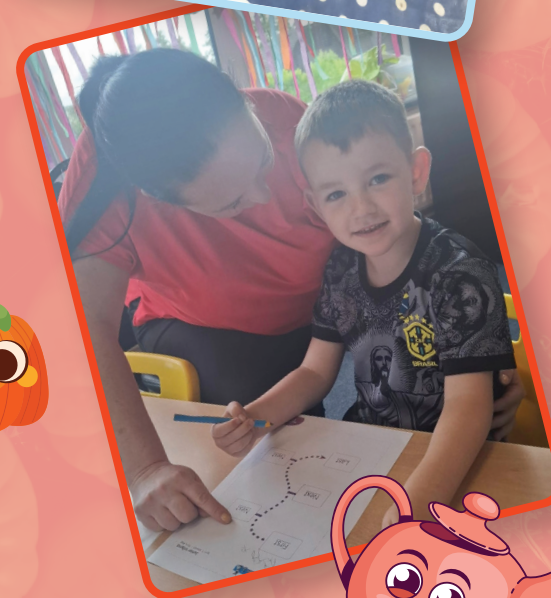


Modelling is a skill for us!

We do the hard work! When we model we
• DON'T say: 'No, that's not how you say it!'

• DON'T say the wrong word again!
We only model what we want to hear!

• DON'T ask the child to say the word again,
They'll probably just say it incorrectly again!



Rhymes

I'm a Little Tea Pot!
I'm a Little Spider!

