

Happy Talk

Language Learning; How do they do it?

We have a huge mystery for you. How do children learn new words? Like position words? Words like **in, under, around, up, through, into, down?** How do they figure it out? Where do they learn it? Position words are complicated!!

Simple answer; from you! Every time you talk about or sing songs with position words, every time you tell your children where you went or where they can go, or how to help you tidy up, put things away, organise a room or a garden.... every single time you use position words, your child is learning them!

You are **Modelling** and **Expanding** and maybe you didn't even know it! In Happy Talk we are going to use these two skills to help children learn to learn!



Modelling is when you help your child say new words, and help them with words that are tricky! You are **Modelling** every time you talk to your child, around your child, with your child. **Modelling** language for small children is one of the most important ways they learn to communicate.

Expanding language builds on the foundation of modelling. **Expanding** is when you help your child build on what they already know. When you show your child how to expand their language, and add to what they have to say, you are helping them learn to talk about new words, new ideas and new experiences.

Not only that, both **Modelling** and **Expanding** allow you to help your child when they make a mistake, or don't use all the words, or can't quite complete what they are trying to say! **Modelling** and **Expanding** help in positive ways, without it getting messy! Check out October to learn more about **Modelling**!



September 2026

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				



For further information email:
happy.talk@hse.ie

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Balloon Breathing Mindful Moment

(Using a real or a pretend balloon!)

Find a comfortable place to sit and place your hands in front of your face. Place your hands around your mouth as if you were about to blow up a balloon. Take a deep breath in through your nose, as you slowly breathe out through your mouth, spread your hands out as if you were blowing a great big balloon. Hold your hands in the same position as you breathe in, and then spread your hands further as you breathe out. Once your balloon is as big as it can be, gently sway from side to side as you release your balloon up into the sky.



Rhyme Time Voices and Games Songs and Rhymes Can Help You Learn to Learn!

Did you know? Playing with nursery rhymes supports early reading skills. Singing songs helps you learn new words, new ideas and new experiences! Songs and rhymes can help you learn how to use new words! In this month's rhyme we are learning position words: in, under, around, up, through, into, down.

By singing and playing with words you are learning, or practicing words you know, making those words strong!

Rhymes

Nibbles and Twitch Live in the Glen! (to the tune of Old Mac Donald)

Nibbles and Twitch Live in the Glen,
E-I-E-I-O!
With a hop, hop here,
And a hop, hope there,
Nibbles and Twitch Live in the Glen,
E-I-E-I-O!

Nibbles and Twitch go...
under the bridge...
around the tree...
up the hill...
through the tunnel...
into town...
down to Blackpool!

