

Talking Tips FOR PARENTS

For the February, 2019 newsletter, our theme is, **“Let’s Talk About the Weather.”**

- If you go to work every day, you likely have to take your baby from the car into the childcare facility. **As you are rushing in, take a few minutes and be aware of the weather that you and your baby are both experiencing.** Is it wet? Snowy? Blowing? Hot? Cold? Now of course I don’t want your talking to be like preschool classrooms of old when they stood up in front of the class and the weather girl or boy said, “Today the weather is cold and windy.” But rather a more **casual, conversational observation.** Let’s see how this might play out.
- **Today as you carry your baby into childcare, you notice that it has begun to rain.** You could say, “Let’s hurry up. It’s raining (hold the palm of your hand out to ‘catch’ the rain.) Mommy is getting wet! Oh, no! Baby is getting wet, too! Let’s get Mommy’s umbrella. Mommy pushes the button and whoosh! The umbrella opens! Now we won’t get wet. Let’s go into daycare.”
- **Let’s imagine on another day it is very cold.** “Brrr! It’s cold outside! Daddy will put on your snowsuit. Zip up your snowsuit. Now let’s put on your hat. Daddy will tie it under your chin. Put your hand in your mitten. One more hand in a mitten. Are you ready?” As you take Baby out, say, “Brrr it’s cold!”
- The next morning, it is snowing. Mom and Dad take the children sledding. Dad talks to Tommy while Mom says to Sally, “Let’s go outside. It’s very cold! Go get your coat.” “Sally, look out the window. See the snow? You need your snow pants. Put one foot in. Put the other foot in. Mommy pulls up Sally’s pants. Here is your coat! Put one arm in. Put the other arm in. Mommy zips Sally’s coat. Here is Sally’s hat. Put your hat on your head. One more thing. Put a mitten on your hand. Put a mitten on your other hand. Uh, oh! We forgot your boots. Put on your boots. Ready. Set. Go outside!” “Oh! It is snowing. The snow is falling down. Sally, look! There is snow on Daddy’s hat. Stick out your tongue. Catch snowflakes on your tongue. Whee! I see snowflakes on Sally’s tongue.” “Here we go! Pull! Daddy is pulling Tommy on the sled.” And so on...

