



# TALKING THE TALK: The Importance of Early Language Development

This is a 45-min talk, followed by 15 mins for Q&A and discussion.

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## ABOUT THIS TALK:

**Young children's language skills are important to their interpersonal and academic success.** Although language development happens throughout childhood, the first 5 years of life are critical for children to acquire the language skills necessary for later learning. During these years, children learn thousands of words and learn to communicate with the adults around them. However, many children may not experience enough conversational interaction with the adults in their life to maximize their language development.

## YOU WILL LEARN:

- Gain an understanding of how speech and language develops.
- Learn the important speech and language milestones and what to do when there are delays.
- Learn how to support and enhance children's communication skills at home.

