

Parent's Lesson Summary

Part 1: English Time

What is English time?

We want to establish an English time at home, for studying with your child. This should be a time when you're studying English with your child, with no interruptions. This will help to motivate kids. English time should be a time where they get 100% of Mommy's attention, which is a great reward for them. Kids will love to do English time, because English time will become Mommy time.

Routine

English time should always be around the same time. At least three times a week. It doesn't matter when. It could be after lunch, after a TV show, any time is ok, as long as it's the same time every time you do it. This is to help the kids into a routine so that they aren't surprised and can mentally prepare.

Try to do the same thing every day when you start English time, this is to signal to the children that it's time to start speaking English. It doesn't matter what it is, it can be a song, or a special rhyme, or as simple as saying "ENGLISH TIME!"

English outside super epion

Kids not speaking English outside Super epion is very common, some kids like to show off what they learn in class, and some think English time is finished once they leave the classroom.

It's good to either make time for speaking English outside of Super epion, even if it is only 5-10 minutes a week, or using English from time to time when talking to your kids. Speaking English to kids is just as important then them speaking outside school.

Parent: What's that?

Child: dog

Parent: Yes! That's a dog! A dog.

Parent: It's a cute dog. I like dogs, Do you like dogs?

Even though the child only said one word, the parent repeats with many sentences, but always using the word that the child said. This gives lots of repetition and input for the child to process, and it will help them to understand.

Speaking like this is actually natural for parents to do when they are speaking in their native languages with children, but you may need to consciously do it with your children when speaking in English.

Words everywhere

There are words everywhere! We can use them to help kids understand their ABCs. When you're reading a story, ask the child what a letter is. Ask them to search the room and to find a letter written anywhere. It's a good idea to give them a small card with the letter you want them to find, so they can match it. Even if they don't know what all the ABCs and letters are yet, they will get used to telling them apart, and everything will be much easier when they are ready for ABCs and phonics. You want your child to be friends with all the letters.

Motivation

While on the topic of confidence, it's also important to talk about motivation. We want to always give lots of praise to children when they're trying to speak. Every child wants to please Mommy, so Mommy should show that she's happy when the child is trying to speak.

Topics that are easy to talk about:

- * Numbers
- * Colors
- * Adjectives
- * Body Parts
- * Toys
- * Clothes
- * Animals
- * Verbs
- * Food

Things from school you can use:

- * **Monthly theme flash cards**
- * **Songs they know from Super epion**
- * **Flash cards or workbooks from Super epion**
- * **Language used at Super epion "how are you?", "what number/color/shape is that?"**

Activities

Activities don't have to be complicated games, or anything speical. It can be as simple as doing chores together, like cleaning a room, or folding laundry. Just so long as you use it to speak English. Actual games are ok, as well, of course.

Running commentary

During English time, you should be trying to speak as much as possible. Keep a running commentary. Giving as much input as you can. "Can you get me the blue toy?, Thank you. It's a blue dog. Do you like dogs? Can you find something else blue? Is there a blue cat? How many animals do we have here?"

Part 2: Story Time: How to use picture books to read stories to your children

Routine

When we do story time, it's good to use the same books again and again. It may be boring for the parent, but there's always something new a child can find when they read a book again. The more you read the same story, the more the child will be able to focus on smaller details, because they aren't as worried about what is going to happen. They can spend more time soaking in every page without hurrying through.

Drama

Try to make the books sound exciting. Children will copy the emotions of those around them. If you sound super excited or sad, they will see, and it will help them to understand better. Just being excited and animated when you read the book is enough, but you can also try to give voices to the characters. You don't have to be any good at it. Your child will not care about your skill.

Pacing

Children really want to hurry through books, they want to see all the pictures and don't care as much about the story. It's important to keep a moderate pace when going through books. You don't want to linger on every page, but you want to make sure your child slows down enough to get some details.

Questions and active reading

Don't just read the story, talk about the story, talk about the pictures, "which character do you like", point to things in the picture "what is that?" "it's a truck", "it's a tree".

Try asking questions about the pages. Things like "How many ___ can you see, let's count them!" Or "Look, it's a blue pencil! Can you find something else that's blue?" Make sure that you give lots of praise when they finish your task. When reading a story, the actual story is the least important thing to worry about. If you have a book with lots of words, you can just skip the story, and talk about what's going on in the pictures. Try to get the child involved. If a character is in danger, have the child talk to them "Watch out!" "Come back!" like that. Your child will love to speak this way, and will pay even more attention to the book.

Part 3: Reading / Writing / Phonics

Make everything a game

It's no fun to sit down and write ABCs over and over again, so it's good to play games to help study. Take some toothpicks and make letters that are missing a piece, challenge your child to fix them. Put ABC cards out of order. Let them Color big letters instead of just writing them. The more fun they are having, the more they will focus and remember.

Write a story

If they aren't interested in talking or writing, try and get them to write about something they enjoy, like a movie, TV show, or something from school. Sometimes worksheets can get boring for kids, and helping them write a story is a great way to practice English at home together.