

FREE PARENT RESOURCE

PARENT GUIDE: HELPING YOUR CHILD BUILD ENGLISH SKILLS

★
*Practical Answers to Common Questions
Parents Ask About English Learning*

IN THIS GUIDE, PARENTS WILL DISCOVER:



When should children begin learning English
— and what they should focus on
at different ages



How children develop the four key
English skills: listening, speaking,
reading, and writing



Why online English classes can
provide effective learning opportunities



How Cambridge English assessments
(KET, PET, and IELTS) help measure
progress and set learning goals



How parents can support their child's
English development at home



LISTENING



SPEAKING



READING



WRITING

Teacher Joe

FAST START TALKING
Helping Students Build
English Confidence



Website: faststarttalking.com



WeChat: [faststarttalking](https://faststarttalking.com)



Email: teacherjoe@faststarttalking.com



FAST START TALKING Parent Guide

Page 1 – Helping Your Child Build English Skills

FST Focus

Every child can begin building English skills through positive experiences, encouragement, and regular opportunities to listen, speak, read, and write.

What Parents Will Discover in This Guide

Learning English is a process that develops over time. This guide explains how children build language foundations and how parents can support learning at home.

- When children should begin learning English and what they should focus on at different ages.
- How listening, speaking, reading, and writing skills develop together.
- How everyday activities can become opportunities for language learning.
- How parents can encourage their child's English development.

Did You Know?

Children learn language best when they have frequent opportunities to hear, use, and connect words with meaningful experiences.

PARENT TIP

Parents do not need to be English experts to support learning. Simple conversations, questions, and encouragement can help children build strong language habits.

FAST START TALKING Parent Guide

Page 2 – Understanding Early English Learning

FST Focus

Children begin learning long before they enter a classroom. Early experiences help children build the language foundation needed for future English learning.

Learning Begins Through Everyday Experiences

Young children learn by listening, observing, speaking, and interacting with the people around them. The goal of early English learning is not simply memorizing words, but helping children connect sounds, words, ideas, and communication.

- Listening helps children recognize sounds and understand meaning.
- Speaking gives children opportunities to express ideas and communicate.
- Reading connects spoken language with written words.
- Writing develops control and helps children communicate their thoughts.

Did You Know?

Children develop language skills through repeated exposure and meaningful interaction. Using English in different situations helps build stronger understanding.

PARENT TIP

Create simple opportunities for English at home. Ask questions, listen to your child's answers, and encourage complete sentences whenever possible.

FAST START TALKING Parent Guide

Page 3 – Learning Happens Every Day

FST Focus

Everyday conversations, play, reading, and writing activities all work together to help children build strong English skills.

The Four Skills Work Together

- Listening: Listen to simple instructions, songs, stories, and everyday conversations.
- Speaking: Encourage complete sentences. Example: Parent: “What is this?” Child: “It is a banana.”
- Reading: Point to words while reading together and label common household objects.
- Writing: Coloring, tracing, drawing, and copying shapes strengthen hand control for future writing.

Did You Know?

Using several senses together—seeing, hearing, speaking, and doing—helps children remember new words more easily.

PARENT TIP

Use everyday routines as English lessons. At the grocery store say: Point to the apples. Bring me the milk. Where are the bananas? Encourage complete sentences whenever possible.

FAST START TALKING Parent Guide

Page 4 – Building Language Through Interaction

FST Focus

Children develop English skills when they have opportunities to listen, respond, and interact with others.

Parents Help Create Learning Opportunities

Young children learn language naturally through conversations and daily activities. Parents can support learning by creating simple moments to use English.

- Ask questions and encourage your child to answer with complete sentences.
- Connect English words with real objects and actions.
- Encourage your child to describe what they see, hear, and do.
- Celebrate effort and communication rather than focusing only on mistakes.

Did You Know?

Children strengthen language skills when they actively use words, not only when they listen to them.

PARENT TIP

Instead of asking only for a one-word answer, encourage your child to use a complete sentence. For example: "What is this?" → "This is a book."

FAST START TALKING Parent Guide

Page 5 – Learning Through Everyday Experiences

FST Focus

Children learn language best when English is connected to real experiences in their daily lives.

English Is All Around Us

Parents do not need special lessons to help children begin learning English. Simple activities at home and outside can become learning opportunities.

- At home: Name common objects such as table, door, chair, and book.
- During meals: Talk about food, colors, and actions.
- At the market: Identify fruits, vegetables, and other familiar items.
- During play: Ask questions and encourage your child to describe what they are doing.

Did You Know?

Children remember new words more easily when they connect words with objects, actions, and personal experiences.

PARENT TIP

Turn daily activities into simple English practice. Instead of only naming an object, ask your child to find it, describe it, or use it in a sentence.

FAST START TALKING Parent Guide

Page 6 – Understanding Early Brain Development and Learning

FST Focus

Young children's brains are developing rapidly. Early experiences with language help build the connections children need for communication and learning.

How Early Learning Builds Strong Foundations

During the early years, children learn by listening, observing, exploring, and interacting with others. Every conversation and experience helps strengthen learning connections.

- Children learn new words when they hear them repeatedly in meaningful situations.
- Talking with children helps connect words with ideas and experiences.
- Reading together introduces vocabulary and helps children understand language structure.
- Drawing, coloring, and early writing activities develop control needed for future writing skills.

Did You Know?

By the early school years, children have already developed many important language foundations. Continued interaction and practice help strengthen these skills as they grow.

PARENT TIP

The best learning happens through connection. Talk with your child, ask questions, listen to their answers, and make English part of everyday experiences.

FAST START TALKING Parent Guide

Page 7 – Learning Through the Five Senses

FST Focus

Children learn more effectively when they actively use different senses while exploring language and the world around them.

Making Learning More Meaningful

Young children do not learn only by memorizing words. They learn by seeing, hearing, speaking, touching, and doing.

- Seeing: Children connect words with pictures, objects, and actions.
- Hearing: Listening to correct pronunciation helps children recognize sounds.
- Speaking: Using new words helps children build communication skills.
- Doing: Activities and movement help children remember new information.
- Writing: Drawing, coloring, and early writing activities strengthen hand control.

Did You Know?

Learning that combines multiple senses creates stronger connections and can help children remember new information more easily.

PARENT TIP

Use actions with words. For example, point to an object, say the word, ask your child to repeat it, and encourage your child to use it in a sentence.

FAST START TALKING Parent Guide

Page 8 – Reading and Writing Foundations

FST Focus

Reading and writing develop from the language foundation children build through listening and speaking.

Building Early Reading and Writing Skills

Children begin preparing for reading and writing long before they write sentences. Early activities help children recognize sounds, letters, and the connection between spoken and written language.

- Letter Recognition: Parents can say a sound and ask the child to find the matching letter.
- Phonics and Sound Connections: Children learn that letters represent sounds used in words.
- Early Writing Skills: Coloring, drawing, tracing, and practicing letters help develop hand control.
- Writing as Communication: Children often write the way they speak at first. This is a natural step in learning.

Did You Know?

Good pronunciation and strong sound awareness support later spelling and writing development.

PARENT TIP

Encourage early writing in fun ways. Coloring inside boundaries, drawing pictures, and writing a child's name are important first steps toward writing control.