

talking matters

Building language-rich environments for babies in the first 1000 days

WHY TALKING MATTERS

Babies are born wired and ready to connect and to learn.

A baby's brain doubles in size in their first year of life. In the first 1000 days, 80% of their neural connections will have formed and the brain will be 4/5 the size of an adult brain.

The language environment babies experience makes all the difference to their development during this period of tremendous growth.

Talking Matters' mission is supporting all the adults in children's lives to create and sustain the language-rich environments that, literally, build babies' brains.

WHAT WE DO

Talking Matters partners with whānau, communities, practitioners, iwi and government to build and support language-rich environments for children.

We work to grow the capability of families and practitioners to strengthen communication and language in the first 1000 days.

We design innovative systems that respond to whānau and practitioners' aspirations, using data that drives positive change and measures its impact.

ENRICHING LANGUAGE ENVIRONMENTS

A language-rich environment is vibrant and contains all the languages of a family, community or setting in verbal, non-verbal, written and cultural forms.

It is the space where children in their first 1000 days of life can develop the communication skills they need to thrive as thinkers, talkers and readers.

“Serve & return” is a key indicator of a language-rich environment. It is a process of connection and responsive back and forth communication that promotes brain development and enhances child and whānau wellbeing.

Kōrerotia
mai!

Talk
to me!

