

Talking To Our Babies Makes 'Em Smarter

Hi! I'm psychologist Dr. Rich O'Neill with this week's "Checkup from the Neckup" —The coolest baby research you've never heard about, or, the **free pre-school** that might wing your baby to Yale.

A little time travel first dear listeners. Mid 80's. I'm cruising Erie Blvd in my creaky Volare with my wonderful Uncle Bob from California riding shotgun and my infant son Nick who, between burps and gurgles, gazes out of the baby seat, checking everything out and then some. I'm shooting the breeze with Uncle, every other breath describing whatever's happening to little Nick.

Here's McDonalds again little man, check out those golden arches! OOH!! Sorry about that screechy stop diaper champ. WOW! Take a gander at that fire truck. Is that big and red or what!? Whoa! A giant yellow banana on that Syracuse Banana delivery truck! How many bananas do you think are in that truck little apple of my eye?

Uncle Bob pipes up: Whoa and Wow yourself there Mr. Non-stop narrator. Does Nick pay you by the word or what?!

Well dear father of my cousins, we're just doing what we do, the Dad and Son talk about everything we see Duet.

Beam us back to 2007 Scottie and to the usefulest research ever for parento's and babes.

Bottom line: The more we parents talk to our infants and toddlers, the smarter our babies get. And this wasn't one of those weird and worthless studies on a couple handfuls of moms and kids. This was a really good study backed up by a whole bunch of others, and included parents who said almost nothing to their little ones all the way up to those who said thousands of words a day. More chatter, get smarter. OK, lecture over.

Now, I was rejected by Yale. Guess my parents weren't the chattering types. But Nick went from being a Nottingham High Bulldog to being a Yale Bulldog. A connection there? Hmmmmm.

So, now **you** are a free pre-school fellow parento. Just talk the talk about the whole wide world and **your** kids **will learn** about the whole wide world.

Go Bulldogs!

I'm Dr. Rich O'Neill. Thanks for listening.