

# Perspective Taking at Home Vroom Tip™ Collection

## Toe Tales (0 – 2 years)

**Vroom Tip:** As you sit with your child, hold their feet and touch each of their toes, making up a story about each one. The small one is a little piglet that goes "oink oink!" The next one is his big brother, etc. Keep going and respond to what they do and say!

**Brainy Background:** When your child hears words and feels your touch, they're making connections in their brain between words and actions. When you respond to what they do and say, it helps them to develop the foundation for talking and reading.

## Bathtime Stories (12 months – 2 years)

**Vroom Tip:** Make up a story about someone who takes a bath just like your child. You can say things like, "First, they washed their hair," while you wash their hair. Then add twist by saying, "Then they splashed in the water," and see if they splash too.

**Brainy Background:** Making up stories shows your child creative ways of thinking. You are also sharing new words with them. They're learning focus and self-control as they listen closely and make connections between their body and your words

## Sock Puppets (2-3 years)

**Vroom Tip:** Sorting the laundry? Encourage your child to help you find all of the socks and make a pile of them. Pick a sock and pretend it is a puppet looking for its matching friend. Celebrate when you find a match. Then let them take a turn as the puppet.

**Brainy Background:** Not only is this activity fun, but your child makes connections as they group the socks and look for the matching pairs. They must use focus and self-control to remember the details of the matching sock. When they pretend, they're thinking creatively.

## Finger Telescope (2-3 years)

**Vroom Tip:** Make a telescope with your hands. Circle your fingers and hold them to your eye and look at your child telling them, "I see you!" Show them how to make their own finger telescope. Take turns looking through the finger telescope and sharing what you see.

**Brainy Background:** This simple game is not only fun, it gives your child the chance to pay attention to their surroundings and think flexibly as they see familiar people and things in a new way. Being flexible is a big part of problem-solving and making the most out of life.

### Silly Speech (2-4 years)

Vroom Tip: Start by asking your child to choose a word. Then say it together in different ways. Use a high voice or a low voice; a loud voice or a soft voice; speak slowly or speak fast. Have fun and keep it going back and forth! Take it to the next level by having a conversation or telling a story together while you play "Silly Speech."

Brainy Background: Playing with word sounds is fun, but those sounds are also the building blocks of your child's language and reading skills. They're also paying attention and thinking flexibly. These skills also help them to come up with new, creative ideas.

### Child Author (2.5-5 years)

Vroom Tip: Start telling a story with your child: "Once upon a time there was a beautiful person who lived in a castle." Ask them, "What do you think this person did today?" They might say, "She played!" You continue, "What did she play with?" Keep the story going based on their responses.

Brainy Background: Telling ongoing stories with children can become a loving tradition that they will remember and cherish all of their lives. It's skill building too. This is a great way to use imagination and build their memory and vocabulary.

### Tiny Tent (4-5 years)

Vroom Tip: Grab a blanket to make a tiny tent at bedtime. Pretend to be camping outside with your child. Say: "Shh ... what do you hear? See? Smell? What do you think is happening outside our tent?"

Brainy Background: Pretending is very important to learning—it helps your child to imagine, be creative, and take the perspective of others. And it's fun!

### Shopping Stories (4-5 years)

Vroom Tip: Going shopping? Make a shopping list and create a story together about the items on the list to remember them: "Once there was a dragon who ... loved to eat carrots and slept on a can of soup." At the store, encourage your child to retell the story and hunt for each item, checking it off the list. Take turns adding new items to the story.

Brainy Background: When you and your child make up stories together, you're encouraging them to think creatively. When you ask them to retell the story to find the items on the shopping list, you're building their memory and making learning fun.