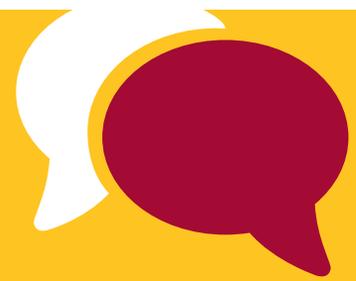


# Come Talk With Me



a monthly newsletter produced by  
**USC Caruso Family Center**  
for Childhood Communication

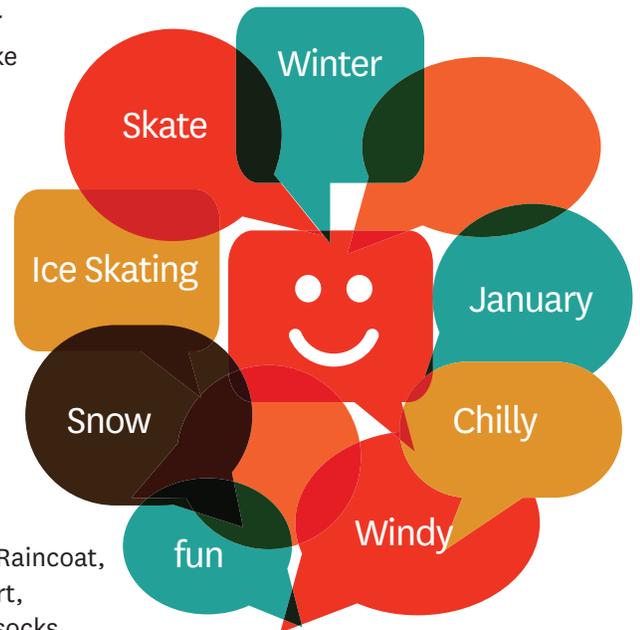


## From your Audiologist:

- For best listening, don't forget to change your mic covers on your cochlear implants every 3 months
- Make a New Year's Resolution to check your child's hearing aid/s with a stethoset and/or implant/s with monitor earphones each week.
- Reorganize your child's binder of reports and add a 2016 tab.

## Words Matter

- With the change of the month, season and year, now is a good time to talk about time concepts such as: month, date, year, season, winter, week, before/after, this week/last week/in 2 weeks, in a little while, yesterday, today, tomorrow, later, soon, beginning/end and ordinal words such as "1st, 2nd, 3rd"
- Now is a time to get out as a family and enjoy winter activities such as ice skating, skiing, tubing, hockey, sledding, building a snowman. Talk about what you need for the sport, where do you play the sport, what are the rules, who plays, and how is it different or the same from other winter sports and summer sports?
- Describing words help make our sentences more interesting. Take the time to describe California's winter. With it being an El Nino year, weather should be more dramatic, creating more opportunities for experiences and conversations. Words could include: cool, crisp, windy, chilly, damp, drizzly, wet, downpour, cloudy, overcast, rainy, partly cloudy. Add more as you see our weather change everyday!
- Talk about all the clothes you need for the different weather. Raincoat, boots, pants, sweater, sweatshirt, jacket, coat, hat, gloves, scarf, socks, umbrella, long sleeve



## Parent Strategies

- Reduce the background noise in your home by turning off TVs and radios
- Be aware of your child's listening bubble. Get on your child's level and be within an arm's length when talking with your child.
- Gain your child's attention before talking with them.

# Read on!

Good book recommendations from our staff:

- **The Seasons of Arnold's Apple Tree** by Gail Gibbons
- **The Mitten** by Jan Brett
- **The Hat** by Jan Brett
- **The Three Snow Bears** by Jan Brett
- **Polar Bear, Polar Bear What do you Hear?** By Eric Carle
- **The Barn** by Avi
- **The Hatchet** by Gary Paulsen



## When reading with your child....

- Consider the acoustics in your home environment. Turn off the television. Find a quiet, cozy place to read away from noise sources.
- Choose a just right book. Just right books have less than 3 unfamiliar words on a page. Just right books have the just right amount of pictures not too few and not too many. Just right books capture your child's attention.
- Talk about the story with your child.
- Think about talking about what your child is looking at. Think about talking about information that will help your child understand the purpose of the story. Think about talking about your everyday experiences with your child that are similar to events pictured in the story.



## Let's Chat

Describing weather gives us lots of chances to practice using the word "it." "It's raining!" "It's sunny!"

Let's make our sentences longer by talking about what you will do or did before or after another event.

Create opportunities for your child to ask you questions. A strategy such as sabotage works. Instead of giving your child what you know they need, wait for them or help prompt them to ask you for what they need.



## Be A Social Star

- Give a compliment to friends that you haven't seen over winter break. Maybe they got something new that you could comment on!
- Ask your friends about their break. What did they do with their families? Where did they go? How was their break?