TIPS FOR TALKING WITH TODDLERS

- Talk to the toddler on his level. Squat down or sit beside him.
- Repeat the toddler’s communication in words.
- Respond to the toddler’s efforts to keep the conversation going.
- Use words to help the toddler name and manage her strong emotions.
- Accompany language with gestures that the toddler can copy.
- Give the toddler time to repeat a new word.
- As you interact with the toddler, respond empathetically to his emotional tenor.
- Respect the toddler’s wariness of strangers and her need to be in control.

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