

# USING TIME WORDS

Learning to use time words that describe points in time, events and routines is important early mathematics learning.

## Watch and Listen While Children Play- Learn About Their Thinking

Watch children notice and talk about:

- things that happen in the **morning, afternoon** or **night**.
- the **time of the day** or the **season of the year**.
- the **day of the week** and what happens on **different days**.
- each other's birthdays and **when** their birthday occurs.
- family and school **routines**.
- **when** celebrations and events occur.

## Everyday

Talk about the **time of the day**, or the **month** or the **season** or **routine** when you are:

- Preparing a meal.
- Dressing for the day or dressing for bed.
- Going shopping.
- Reading a story.
- Driving in the car.
- Walking down the street.
- Catching a train.
- Visiting family and friends for celebrations.
- Playing in the park.

## Comparing

When children notice the **time** or **day of the week** or **season**, encourage them to **describe** or **compare** what happens **during** these times or events.

- What do we do on **Mondays**?
- What is the weather like during **summer**?
- How is the weather different in **summer and winter**?
- How can we tell if it's **spring** or **autumn**?
- How are your activities different in the **morning and afternoon**?



## House Hunt

Find:

- a **calendar**. What month is it?
- a story about **summer**.
- something we eat for **breakfast**.
- a picture about **winter**.
- some clothes we wear in **winter**.
- some **birthday** candles.

## Play Eye Spy

Eye spy with my little eye...

- a **calendar**!
- a picture about **spring**!
- some **autumn** leaves!
- a **Christmas** decoration!
- a plant that flowers in **spring**!
- a poster about the **weekend**!

## Talking and Describing

When children hear you talk about and describe the **time of the day**, the **date of events** and **routines** then they will learn and use this mathematical language also.