

# Abound Parenting News

## Theme: *Down on the Farm* (week 1)

Most of the conversations happening in homes is *everyday talk*, “pick up your socks,” or “How was your day?” But to be successful readers and students, children **also** need to hear talk about ideas and words, and they need to be part of back-and-forth conversations that get them to think, wonder and respond.

Use Abound daily and give your child a chance to grow language and reading skills each day...through TALK.

- **This week’s WordUp word is STRUCTURE.** Here are *more* ways to give your child opportunities to hear and use this abstract word.
  - *If you wanted to build a clubhouse in the woods with your friends, would you build a **STRUCTURE** or just find a special place among the trees? Why? If you didn’t build a **STRUCTURE**, could you still meet in the rain or snow?*
  - *At some parties, people talk and eat and have a good time, but there are no specific things to do. Other parties are **STRUCTURED**, with games and food planned at different times and a specific hour when everyone leaves. Do you prefer parties that are more **STRUCTURED**, or less? Why?*
  - *Could you build a **STRUCTURE** out of toothpicks? What else would you need?*
    - *Remind your child that a **STRUCTURE** (a thing or a noun) is something that’s made from different parts and can stand on its own (e.g., houses, buildings, fences), and **TO STRUCTURE** (an action word or verb) means to plan or organize something.*
- **How else can you build your child’s reading skills through TALK?**  
Try these questions taken from different TalkOn age groups this week:
  - *Farmer Fay fed foxes. Let’s say all those words aloud. They all begin with the same sound, /{f}/. Let’s say the /{f}/ sound together, then think of a number that begins with that same /{f}/ sound. (e.g., five, fifty)*
  - *Cows only eat plants and grains, and cows only have teeth on the bottom of their mouths to eat with! If you only had teeth on the bottom, what would you be able to eat?*
  - *Solar panels are rectangular devices that capture the heat from the sun and turn it into energy. Have you seen one? When lots of solar panels are lined up in fields, they’re called solar farms. How is a solar farm like a farm that grows vegetables?*

**Don’t forget to update your Abound app to get audio – & Spanish!**

Your school is providing the Abound app for you to use at home. To get access, you have to start at <https://partners.aboundparenting.com/>. Use the code you received from your child’s teacher & follow instructions to download the app on any iOS or Android device.  
Questions? Write to [sue@aboundparenting.com](mailto:sue@aboundparenting.com)