

# Abound Parenting News

## Theme: *About Time*

### Build reading skills -- talk *with* children, not *to* them!

**Transition words** are words that connect sentences. They explain how the idea in *one* sentence is related to what's written in the *next* sentence. They might compare things that are happening, show how something caused something else to happen, or give readers a sense of timing. "Transition words" can be tough for kids so it's good to practice them!

- **This week's academic vocabulary word is a *transition word*, MEANWHILE.** Here are 2 ways to give your child extra opportunities to hear and use the word **MEANWHILE**:
  - *If I was running late to walk you to the bus stop, I might say, "You put away the breakfast dishes and **MEANWHILE**, I'll get my things together." Why would that help us get out of the house quicker? What else could you do to help?*
  - *I was watching a show on television and **MEANWHILE**, someone had the radio on and music was playing loudly in the background. It was bothering me to listen to both the television and the radio because I couldn't keep my mind on the show. Can you watch television when **MEANWHILE**, the radio is on and playing music? Is it hard for you to focus?*
    - ◆ *Remind your child that we use the word **MEANWHILE** when we talk about two things going on at the same time.*
- **How else can you build your child's reading skills through TALK?**  
Try these questions taken from different TalkOn age groups in *About Time* this week:
  - *Let's clap out the syllables in the word cal-en-dar? How many did we count? Can we think of a day of the week with the same number of syllables?*
  - *The word **snooze** means a short, light sleep. If you hit the **snooze** button on your alarm clock when the alarm goes off, it stops the alarm and about 8 minutes later, the alarm sounds again. Why do alarm clocks have **snooze** buttons?*
  - *Some people live in places where they can hear church bells ring one time for each hour of the day and night, so the bells ring or gong 4 times at 4 o'clock. Do you think those bells that tell what time it is are ever helpful to people today? When?*
  - *Adults always seem to be aware of what time it is and what time they have to do something, but kids aren't as aware of time. Why do you think that's true?*

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)

