



CONNECT TO THE CLASSROOM

Think Aloud Activity

During the Salad Talk activity video, the teacher said her thoughts out loud to help the children understand more words and actions during mealtimes. Notice the following three strategies the teacher used to build their language:

- Talked with toddlers as she fed them
- Used a calm gentle style
- Shared her thoughts and explained what she was doing

Practice applying the key concepts demonstrated in the Salad Talk activity on your own:

- Begin by **gently talking** while the children are eating lunch.
- Use a **calm style** as you serve the meal.
- Share your **thoughts and explain** what you're doing.
- Think of these moments as opportunities to **share what you know**, even if you think the words will be unfamiliar to the child(ren).

When you are finished reflect on the following questions:

1 What words and actions did you use with the children to talk about what they were eating?

2 How did you explain what they were doing? Did you use more than one sentence?

3 Did you talk about how much you like the foods or get excited about the way they were eating?

4 What would you change about the conversation for the next time you think aloud?
