

Talking about what you did today

(Work on this for 5 minutes and if it doesn't generate natural conversation, then move on to a new conversational topic. )

Help your child talk about his/her/their day by asking these questions:

1. Who did you play with?
2. Who did you talk to?
3. What did you work on?

The goal is for the child to practice using regular past tense terms "played", "talked", and "worked" by developing a conversation in which you are modeling the use of those terms. If the child responds by using an incorrect tense, then the adult needs to do a "recast". That means, restate the child's utterance with the correct form. It might go like this :

Parent: Who did you play with today?

Child: At recess I play with Abraham and Jerry.

Parent: Oh, you played with Abraham and Jerry.

My advice is that when the parent is doing a recast, he or she shouldn't make it obvious that the child's speech is being corrected.