



## How to Talk so Kids Will Listen and Listen so Kids Will Talk

~ A Review by Jean Oxtou

Do you have a parenting concern or question regarding the difficult task of raising children? Did you know that Trinity has a great collection of parenting books? This continually growing library just might be place to find the answers to some of your concerns.

How to Talk So Kids Will Listen & Listen So Kids Will Talk is one of my favorite books, and the Trinity library has 3 copies available for borrowing. This is a book that has had the most influence on me as a parent and teacher, and I find myself using its suggestions and hints frequently, not only with children but with adults!

We can all use reminding now and again about how we need to listen more and talk less, and this book gives simple responses to common comments that we often hear from our children. One of my favorite chapters has to do with helping children become autonomous. We are all guilty of helping children when they start to struggle, or giving too much advice when it's not needed. This chapter reminds us of the true value of letting children learn on their own, sometimes through many episodes of trial and error. The format is easy to read, with cartoon illustrations and exercise pages where you can practice what you've learned. I agree with one reviewer who said "This book should also be listed in the Business/Management section. It says all the same things the high-priced consultants say--treat people with respect, do not deny their emotions, state the facts (only) and shut up and listen."