TICKETY TOC

TYPE OF LANGUAGE

• British English

• Conversational

GRAMMAR AND VOCABULARY

• The series is about the twins Tommy and Tallulah. Each episode is an adventure where the twins race against time to complete a challenge. There are a lot of references to time, e.g. clock, time, bells, chime, we’re running out of time.

• There are a significant number of colloquialisms and fixed/semi-fixed expressions, such as I’ll be there in a tick, that should do the trick, it’s teeny-weeny, (the best thing) in the whole wide world, to take your mind off something.

• Most of what is said is a dialogue between the characters. The majority of this is in the present tense to talk about what is happening, e.g. Can we make a trifle? I’ve got everything we need and to talk about the future, e.g. we’re going to make a cake, we’ll never finish in time.

COMMON WORDS & PHRASES

• Hope you have fun!

• It’s (story) time!
• It’s time to (paint)!
• What shall we do?
• Let me see…
• What is it?
• See you (later)!
• I wonder (what happens if…)
• I can’t wait to…
• Watch this!
• I think we need…
• I know! We could…
• Can we (make a cake)?
• Finished!
• What are you doing?
• It doesn’t matter
• I’ve got an idea!
• I love (playing)
• Don’t worry
• Never mind
• I wish (we could go)
• We’d better get going
• What about the…

TIPS

If you are able to do the following ideas in English then great. If you can’t or don’t feel confident in doing so, you can still aid your child’s learning by doing them in Spanish.

• Learn the words to the introductory song so your child can sing along.  
  http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j1G__n1-wXs

• Before watching, talk about the topic of the cartoon together, e.g. one episode is called Birthday Time. You could ask, whose birthday is it? What are they going to do? Do you think they’ll have cake? Then check predictions as you watch.

• If you are watching online, stop halfway through. Summarise what’s happened so far. Use gesture and facial expression to reinforce meaning (e.g. Tommy’s excited).

http://www.rtve.es/letsclan
• Try to pick out words that will be useful for your child. Later you can review these with your child. Research has shown that staged review helps memorisation and is most effective if reviewed after about 10 minutes, a day, a week and then a month.

• There are a number of noticeable features characteristic of native speakers, e.g. *We’ve gotta win* (as opposed to *we have got to win*) and *hope you have fun!* (as opposed to *I hope you have fun!*). Try to identify these features and use them, as this will help your child develop both their listening skills and pronunciation.

• At the end of the cartoon, review the story, retell it with your child and ask them about their favourite part. Tell them about your favourite part too.

• There are a number of Tickety Toc books available including storybooks, readers (for children learning to read), activity books and books to develop numeracy skills.

• Visit [http://uk.ticketytoc.com/](http://uk.ticketytoc.com/) for games and activities online.