



Children's Therapy Services
Speech and Language Therapy
Children's Therapy Service
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ATTENTION AND LISTENING SKILLS KS2

“Listening to Silence”

Make the child aware of sound and silence.



Sit quietly for a minute and ask the child to whisper or write anything they could hear, e.g. child breathing, airplane, clock ticking, a person coughing etc.

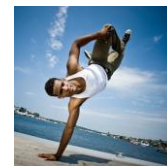
This can be carried out as a whole class and can be repeated in different settings – in the classroom, outside etc.

“Fast Food”



Sit in a circle on chairs. Select three foods (e.g. chips, burger, sausage.) Go round the group giving each child a food name/picture of that food. Call out one of the foods and everyone who is a 'chip' must stand up and change chairs. You can call out two food names and everyone must change chairs. If you shout out 'Fast Food' all foods must change chairs. This can be varied by using different vocabulary topics (transport / Romans / plants / animals etc.).

“Body Poppin' n Slides”



The children move to the music and when it stops they must freeze in a cool dance pose. The last one to freeze is out. To make this game harder give additional instructions (e.g. jump twice before you freeze).

“Feelie Box”



Put about 3 different objects (e.g. apple, pencil, cup/curriculum topic related items) under a big box. Cut the hole out of the top of the box so that the child’s hand will fit in to take things out.

Have more objects ready. Show the child another object and then place it in the box with the others. Ask the child to find it by touch.

“Pack your Suitcase”



Make a suitcase out of a box or use an old shopping bag. Have a range of travel items available (e.g. travel book, sun glasses, sun cream, towel, swimsuit). Ask the child to select an item and put it in the suitcase. Then increase the number of items, making sure that the child listens to the items before picking them up. The child should pick up the items in the order that was request.

“Which Picture?”



Spread out a selection of pictures which only the adult can see. Pictures could be related to current curriculum topics. Describe one to the child and they have to guess what it is. If child is correct they keep the picture – the person with the most is the winner. Could be played in a pair or small group.

“Guess Who”



Collect two identical sets of people pictures (e.g. cartoon characters, film stars, soap actors), one for you and one for the child. Put a barrier between you (a folder) so you can’t see each other’s people pictures. Choose a people picture and describe it to the child. See if they can identify the correct picture.

“I went shopping”



In a group start 'I went shopping and I bought an apple.' The next person in the group has to repeat the phrase recalling what you said and then adding their own item. Other venues can be used (e.g. museums, fun parks, holidays).

“Stories”



Read a story and each child takes a turn to answer questions.

Tell a short story to the child. The child should repeat the story back with and then without pictures. Can they tell the whole story?

Vary this activity by reading a story and then repeating it only making deliberate mistakes. Can the child identify the errors?

Sit in a circle. One child should start a story and their neighbor should carry it on, making sure it is related to the original tale.

“Doodling Games”



Have a picture in front of you, which the child cannot see. The child has a piece of paper and some markers. Describe the picture to the child, giving them information about the items (e.g. where they are in the picture and what colour they are). The child should try to draw your picture. Is it the same? This activity can be done in pairs. Pictures based on curriculum topics can be used.

SPECIFIC RESOURCES WHICH CAN BE PURCHASED INCLUDE:

“Picture Sound Lotto” Available through LDA, Duke Street, Wisbech, Cambs PE13 2AE. www.idalearning.com Item No. LL01127

“Sounds Fun at Home” 4 Listening games matching photos to sounds they hear around the house. Available through LDA, Duke Street, Wisbech, Cambs PE13 2AE. www.idalearning.com Item No. LL01298 Age range 4 - 10

“Sounds Fun at Play” 4 Listening games matching photos to sounds they hear around the house. Available through LDA, Duke Street, Wisbech, Cambs PE13 2AE. www.idalearning.com Item No. LL01299 Age range 4 - 10

“Listening Skills” Sound picture matching activities available on CD. Available from Speechmark Publishing Limited, Telford Road, Bicester, Oxon OX26 4LQ.

www.speechmark.net

Outdoor sounds - Order Code 001-5199

Indoor sounds – Order Code 001-5194

Sequencing Sounds – Order Code 001-5204

“Understanding and Using Spoken Language” General collection of games designed to language skills. Various activities within resources aimed at listening. Available from Speechmark Publishing Limited, Telford Road, Bicester, Oxon OX26 4LQ.

www.speechmark.net Order Code 002-5183 Age Range 7 – 9

“Listening Skills Key Stage 2” Structured colouring activity sheets. Available through LDA, Duke Street, Wisbech, Cambs PE13 2AE. www.idalearning.com Item No. LL08518

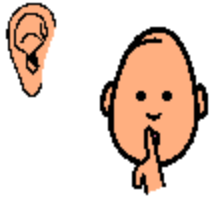
“Live Sound 3D” Game devised to practise listening skills. Available through LDA, Duke Street, Wisbech, Cambs PE13 2AE. www.idalearning.com Item No. LL06038 Age range 6 – 11

Strategies to be Used for Developing Listening and Attention Skills

- Keep the group size small so that the child doesn't have to wait too long for their turn
- Use a timeline to visually display the order of activities and run through this at the start of your group
- Get down to the child's level (e.g. on chairs/on the floor)
- Call the child's name and then repeat after a pause (touch the child if necessary)
- Gain eye contact with the child
- Use slightly raised volume and "bright" voice
- Support language with gesture
- Use attractive materials one at a time
- The child may need frequent changes of activity and only short periods of focused play to start with or intersperse with physical activity
- Begin by doing simple activities where the child has to listen to one simple request (i.e. 'ready steady go!'/ 'pass the ball') and then build up to activities that involve listening and doing at the same time
- Use the "prompt" cards consistently to remind the child to do 'good listening', 'good looking', 'good sitting', 'good turn taking'
- You can also use the 'first/next' board and 'I am working for' board to keep the child on task for group activities/individual activities

Timeline Pictures

listening to silence



fast food



body poppin n slides



feelie box



suitcase



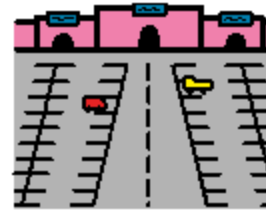
which picture



guess who



I went shopping



stories



doodling games

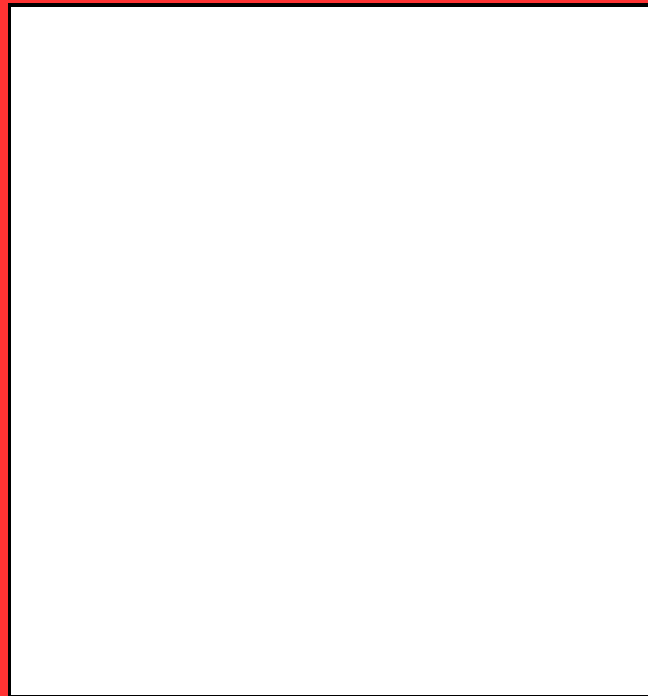


finished



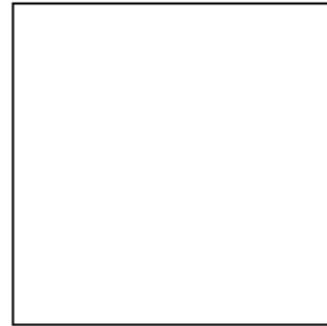
First/Next Board

First... Next



I am working for board

I am working for



Fast Food

chips



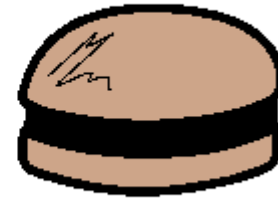
chips



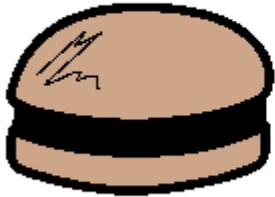
chips



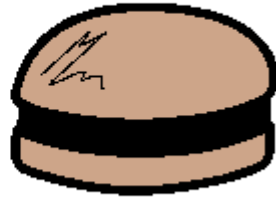
burger



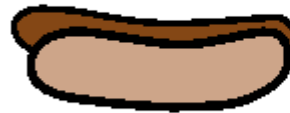
burger



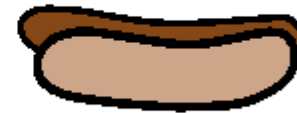
burger



hot dog



hot dog



hot dog



Chinese food



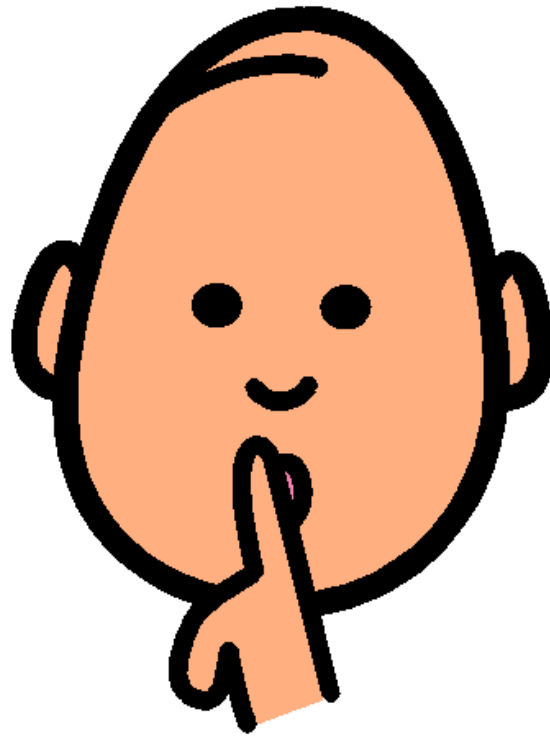
Chinese food



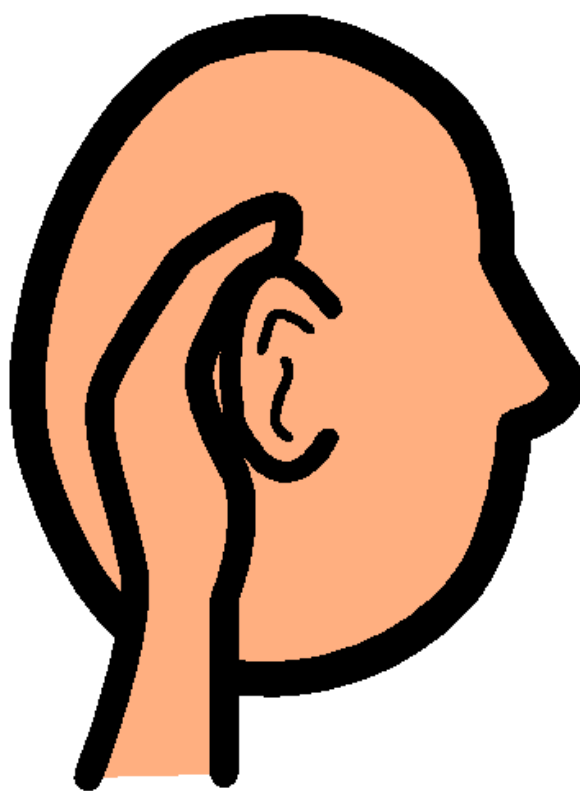
Chinese food



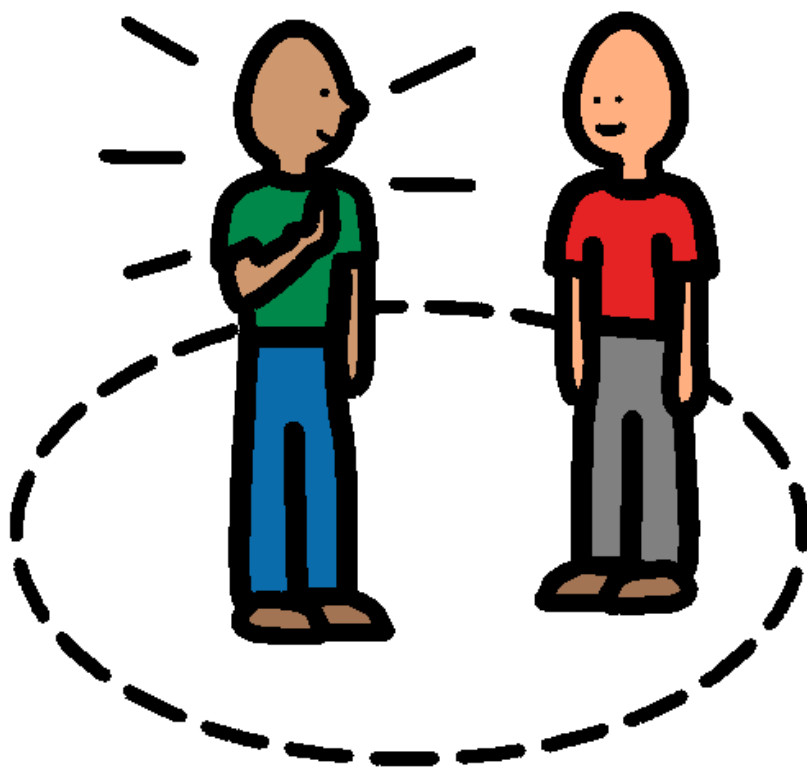
quiet



good listening



good turn taking



good sitting



good looking





Good Listener Certificate

Name:

Date:

Excellent work with...

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Well Done!



