

AACS Speech –Language Pathologists Series



**Supporting the
Special Needs
Community from
birth through life**



**Doing Great Things Since
1951!**

www.TheArcAlliance.org

Help Your Child Listen and Learn





1. Play “Who Am I?” taking turns making animal, vehicle and other environmental sounds. The listener has to identify the sound you are making . (Example: Who am I: “ROARRR!”.

2. Play a game of hide-n-seek, hiding small items around the room. Give directions using position concepts such as under, in, behind, on top of, etc., to find the hidden items. Ex.: “The car is behind the chair.” “The book is under the pillow.”

3. Sing familiar songs with your child, making them interactive. Examples: Old MacDonald,; and on his farm he has a pig...with an (wait for your child to fill in the corresponding sound) or The Wheels of the Bus: The babies on the bus go (wait for your child to fill in the corresponding sound). Make a “mistake” to see if your child notices and tries to correct you.

4. Read familiar books to your child. Pause and allow her to fill in the last word or two on each page. (Brown bear brown bear what do youI see a red bird looking.....)

5. Bath time is a great time to work on following directions because your child is usually motivated by water play and bath, the child could get a cup, favorite toys. They could throw in the water as you tell them. their arm, leg, belly (body part duck’s head or shark’s tail, etc.  they are contained in one spot! Before duck, washcloth, shampoo, soap, and the targeted toys (rubber duck, fish, boat) Once they are in the tub, they could wash practice) or put soap/bubbles on the Simple directives like “give me the cup,” “get the boat,” or “put the duck in the boat” can be reinforced. Also, plastic animals or toys are great for working on answering simple questions....Which one swims? Who says quack quack? Where’s the big fish? Singing songs in the tub and saying nursery rhymes are great for listening skills.

6. Pretend play with small figures or stuffed animals lends themselves to lots of fun with following directions: put the bear in the wagon/car/truck or give the bear some juice and yogurt (parents can use plastic or paper cups and use kids yogurt cups and plastic spoons, etc.) 

7. The game of “Simon Says” or a scavenger hunt (the child will have to follow the clues/directions and they will reach a surprise) can be a fun way of helping your child listen. Provide cues and reminders as you play the games. (“Get your listening ears ready”. “Listen” while pointing to your ears). You can also play a “copy cat” by making a cat mask out of a paper plate and say a word. Point to the child/children and have the

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imitate the words that you've said. Listening can be made more fun by using recordings and music as well. Other games like "Red light, green light" can also help the child to wait and listen.



8. Play mail carrier and give directions to deliver mail to different people in different places (ex. Deliver this letter to Daddy in the kitchen).

9. Build anticipation of your words in speech/movement games for earlier stages of development e.g. bump-bump-bump, up and down, around and around, stop and go, hurry-hurry, clap-clap, tap-tap, bang-bang, tickle-tickle or "I'm gonna get your (body part name)" with tickling.

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