

Winter Teaching Fun Activities Joan Rupert

I include the following activities within a sixty-minute Hanen-based intervention program. Parents participate with enthusiasm!

1. Target: Consonant-Vowel exercises for speech, language, phonemics, cued-speech-reading, cueing and voice

I use the [40 Cues Phoneme Chart](#) with the parents. I surely love this colored chart!

I cut the chart into the individual picture squares. I use only the picture squares of the specific phonemes we are working on and teach the parents only those cues. I send home only the phonemes that are targeted.

For example, since it is winter, SING (*to the tune of "Old McDonald"*)
"Frosty Snowman has a Sled; A E I O U".

While you work with the child, teach the cues for the vowels to the parent. Then, as time goes on, add consonants in front of the vowels, starting with the ones most visible on the lips: /b/, /m/, /p/, /t/, /d/ and /f/

Look for objects that begin with those consonants and incorporate into the song; e.g., "On the sled he had a BALL; Ba-e (**A**), Bee (**E**), Bi-e (**I**), Bo-e (**O**), Boo" etc.

Send those exercises home for intermittent (daily) practice.

Of course, we are doing many other activities, too, such as scripting patterns; e.g., "I see _____" "I want _____"
My little client imitates the cues, but in spontaneous interactions, she doesn't use them. What a tool!!!

2. Target: A E I O + h

Gather or make pictures of a brown sleigh, green tree, blue sky, white snow (you can use recycled Christmas Cards as props)

use a beanie baby owl....and sing to the tune of "Jimmy Crack Corn"

*"Owl in the brown sleigh, ha-e ha-e ha-e
Owl in the green tree, hee, hee, hee,
Owl in the blue sky, hi-e, hi-e, hi-e,
Owl in the white snow, ho-e, ho-e, ho-e"*

3. Initial Scripting: I want_____.

or
Please throw_____.

Gather beanie babies, stuffed animals (snowman, polar bear, penguin, owl, etc more than one of each gives needed repetition for deaf individuals as well as students with apraxia.)

The therapist (or coach the parent) will hold up the item and say *"I have a snowman!"*
The child is facilitated to ask for the toy.

" I want_____ " or "Please throw_____ "

Higher levels would include descriptors (a little snowman, tall snowman, fat snowman, silky snowman)

Script according to child's language and articulation ability.

4. Advanced Scripts: I see a_____looking at me.

Beanie Babies or stuffed animals are valuable props for this exercise.

Polar Bear, Polar Bear what do you see? (question from adult)

Script: "I see a _____looking at me" *Could be: penguin, snowman, angel, or any manipulatives of targeted nouns*

Initially the adult (usually the parent) models what the child needs to repeat.

Follow up: Read the book: *Polar Bear, Polar Bear*

5. Role Playing: Three Little Snowmen Riding on a Sled

Props: toy sled, three snowmen, two telephones

Adult: Three little snowmen riding on a sled,
One fell off and bonked his head (Bonk)

Child's name called Frosty (*with phone: give a script*):

"Help, the snowman fell off the sled"

Adult or family member answers the phone and says:

" No more falling off the sled!"

Roles can be changed or expanded: e.g.,

"Frosty, I have a problem, my snowman fell off the sled."
Tell him to be more cautious and stay on that sled!"