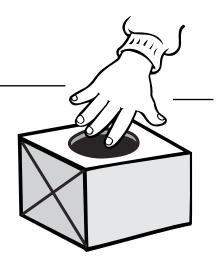


Creative Articulation Practice at Home: Fun for the Whole Family!

by Keri Spielvogle, MCD, CCC-SLP

Looking for a new way to work on articulation skills at home? Or a new and different way to get your students interested in articulation therapy? Make it fun and exciting for your children by trying the following suggestion. It's an activity for all the children to enjoy!



Fun Articulation Practice... "in a box!"

- Make a "mystery box" using common household objects and your child's toys. Cut a slot in the top of a good-sized box. Make sure that your child's hands plus an object fit through the slot.
- 2) Help your child decorate the box the way he/she wants it to look. This makes the child feel like he/she is participating and provides a great language-building activity.
- 3) Talk to your child's SLP about what he/she is working on in therapy.

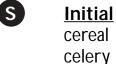
Some specific questions to ask are:

- What sound/sounds is he/she working on in speech class?
- What position/positions is he/she working on with each sound?

 (Basically, **initial** means a sound at the beginning; **medial** means a sound in the middle; and **final** means a sound at the end. For example, for the /k/ sound, "cup" is initial; "bacon" is medial; and "book" is final.)
- What level is he/she working on? (There are different levels a child works on, each getting more difficult. The "easiest" level is **isolation**, or the "k" sound alone. Next, the "k" sound is in some position within a **syllable** (i.e., "ka," "aka," or "ak.") Next, the **word** level (i.e., cup, bacon, book), then, a phrase (i.e., "in the cup;" "in the book"), then, a sentence (i.e., "I read a book," or "The juice is in the cup"). Finally, the sound is monitored in conversation for consistent production.)
- 4) Pick 10-15 objects, letter cards, or syllable cards with your child's target sound in them and, without your child seeing, "hide" them in the Mystery Box.
- 5) Let your child choose an object/card and say/name it, use it in a phrase, sentence, or ask questions to elicit conversation.

- 6) Continue until your child sees all objects and completes each task.
- 7) For a special treat, put a "surprise" in the box your child can keep or eat!

Some ideas for five commonly misarticulated sounds are:



cent seed

seashell salt soap soup softball sock



bicycle (toy) dinosaur (toy) motorcycle (toy)

pencil receipt baseball glasses icing bracelet whistle



bus (toy) dress (shoe) lace box (smaller) horse (toy) (dental) floss

lace purse

ice (in a baggie) necklace

Initial

shoe shapes (toy) ship (toy) shirt shells shampoo shoelace

sugar shovel (toy) shark (toy)

Medial

horseshoe toothbrushes tissue

marshmallows nutshells

washcloth dishes (toy) invitation lotion

Final

hairbrush toothbrush fish (toy/picture) mouthwash nail polish dish leash paintbrush

starfish licorice

Initial

rope rose rina

rabbit (toy) robe

rattle ribbon radio

rocket (toy) raisins

Medial

flashlight

airplane (toy) carrots earrings horse (toy) purse fork marbles markers

shirt

fire engine (toy)

Final

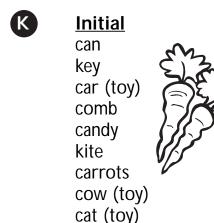
(teddy) bear car (toy)

pear jar flower feather dollar

dinosaur (toy)

paper letter





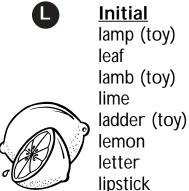
corn

lotion

lizard (toy)

Medial
chicken (toy)
bacon (toy)
pumpkin (toy)
rocket (toy)
helicopter (toy)
bicycle (toy)
sneaker
napkin
chocolate
monkey (toy)

Final
sock
stick
truck (toy)
block
snake (toy)
book
cake
rake (toy)
milk
black (crayon)



Medial
balloon
collar
dollar
jelly
necklace
pillow
ruler
elephant (toy)
marshmallows
helicopter (toy)

Final
bell
doll
ball
bowl
nail
football
pencil
towel
seashell
mail

Use this activity with all your children and with every sound. With a little creativity, you can make articulation practice FUN!

Name

Date



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