





Kindergarten Oral Language Activity Calendar

Week 1

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Hunting for Sounds	Building Back-to-Back	Wednesday Wash Day	Cooking up Verbs	Simon Says
<p><i>Your child's awareness of sound structure in oral language is important in beginning reading and spelling. Help your child become more efficient at recognizing these sounds through games!</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Choose a sound and present it to your child (e.g., the 'sss' sound). Make sure to emphasize the sound and not the letter. 2. Have a treasure hunt around the house to find objects that start with that sound (e.g., search for objects that begin with the 'b' sound; <i>bag, box, ball, book</i>). Who can find the most objects that start with that sound?! 3. To increase the challenge, search for objects that end with a certain sound. 	<p><i>Sharing clear information and being a good listener allows for better conversations. Barrier games such as this one are a great way to practice.</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Gather two groups of the same building blocks (e.g., 10 pieces of the same colour and size). 2. Sit down with your child, with your backs to each other. 3. Take turns being the building leader, by telling the other person what to do, <u>step by step</u>. 4. Be <u>specific</u>! Say which block (small blue, big red etc.) and where it goes (on, under, beside). 5. <u>Confirm</u> and <u>Clarify</u>: Ask questions to make sure or to hear it again. 6. Turn around and compare! Talk about what is different, "I put the green block <u>on</u> the blue and you put it <u>next to</u> the blue one." 	<p><i>Grouping words into categories helps your child understand how words go together. When children grasp associations among words, they develop an efficient way to store and retrieve new information. For example, they learn that <i>apple, bread, banana, and pasta</i> belong to the group we call "food." They later learn that <i>apple and banana</i> belong to an even more specific group called "fruit."</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have your child help you sort the laundry (yes it will take longer!). 2. Sort clothes in many different ways: by <u>colour</u> (darks, whites, bright colours); <u>type</u> (jeans, towels, socks, underwear, fancy shirts); <u>size</u> (mom and dad clothes vs. kids' clothes). 3. Create your own category and see if your child can guess what it is (e.g., <u>tops</u> vs. <u>bottoms</u>). 4. Have your child create their own grouping and you guess! 	<p><i>Cooking is a great activity that builds your child's understanding of directions, procedural steps to complete a task, and even new vocabulary, especially action words or verbs!</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Choose a simple recipe of one of your child's favourite meals/treats (e.g., cookies, grilled cheese, macaroni). 2. Pull out all the ingredients and set up all of the measuring spoons, cups and mixing bowls that you will need. 3. Help your child measure, mix, chop, peel, pour, stir, spread, and slice. 4. Describe what you are doing and what your child is doing in detail (Now I use the spoon and slowly stir to blend in the flour). 5. Don't forget to taste!  <p style="text-align: center;">Video - Modeling Language while Baking</p>	<p><i>The ability to understand, recall and act upon a spoken direction is important in following instructions and understanding classroom expectations and routines. Simon Says is a great game to play to strengthen those listening skills, while also getting moving!</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tell your child to listen closely to your directions. Remember... only do the action if you hear "Simon Says!" 2. Give a direction for your child to follow. Start with 1-step directions, like "Simon Says touch your nose" or "Simon Says do 5 jumping jacks!" 3. Keep listening! Add a second step to your directions, like "Simon Says touch your feet and then spin around in a circle!" 4. Make your directions even trickier by using the words before and after (e.g., "Simon Says before you touch your feet, wiggle your arms!") 