

Speech Therapy News

Eastwood Eagles Edition: Week 6

April 20th - 24th, 2020: Earth Day lands this Wednesday on April 22, 2020! Let's have fun this week, practice outside, complete the scavenger hunt, and get dirty helping in the yard!! Send me your pictures!

Language Activities

Preschool - 2nd Graders:
Lots of different activities revolving around Earth Day! These activities cover increasing vocabulary, following complex directions, prepositions, pronouns, and basic concepts.

One Sheet Language Activity:
Complete the language sheet, one task at a time. :)

3rd and 4th Graders: There is a story titled "Responsibility." Read the passage and then answer the questions. **Bonus points** if you use complete sentences and highlight your answers in the text!



Speech Sounds

All Students: There are several different activities - one uses a dice, one uses a paperclip and a pencil, and one is a search and find! If you need another word list (or more words) - *please let me know*. Keep practicing!!

A Note to Parents:

Scavenger Hunts: For a fun twist, head outside and search for items on the included list! This is a great way to make real world connections, work on vocabulary, and increase following direction skills and working memory!

Strategy to Try: Word Play

Finding new and interesting ways to challenge your child with words is a great way to keep them engaged and learning. Target these skills:

Categories - working on categorization helps form connections between words and organizes an internal filing cabinet.

Context Clues - giving your child clues or describing features of their favorite toys stimulates early inferencing and main idea skills.

Word Associations - "which two things go together? juice, dog, and milk?" This also helps with identifying features and categorizing.



Social Skills & Family

Preschool & Kinders:
Focus this week on turn-taking - play with a ball or use cause & effect toys to take turns. This builds strong conversational skills!

1st through 4th Grade:
One Sheet Social Skills Practice and some Earth Day problem-solving task cards!



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GOOD PLANETS ARE HARD TO FIND

"Unless someone like YOU cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not." - Dr. Suess, *The Lorax*

Cooking up Speech!

How perfect is Dirt Pudding for celebrating Earth Day!? This is always a family favorite (even for the adults!). You will need instant pudding, milk, Oreos, cups, and maybe some whip cream or gummy worms.

Keep talking, asking questions, describing, sequencing, and labelling throughout this activity - **most delicious speech session EVER!** :) Don't forget to send me picture!



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Important Message:

Hello Parents! We have had our first FULL week of online speech (or tele-therapy) sessions! *Thank you so much for your patience and commitment* - we're really rocking now! :) Please continue to check your emails! **Thank you!**

This Week's Focus:

Vocabulary development can vary greatly from child to child. Generally, first words should coincide with first steps. By toddler age, children will start to combine words into phrases. Here are some ways to increase your child's expressive and receptive vocabulary development:

- Talk, talk, and talk some more! Relatively simple, but immensely important. Try narrating your actions while interacting with your child. This technique is two-fold, exposing your child to more words, grammar, and expression as well as relating it to concrete items around you.
- Bombard your child with a single word. Pick one word to focus on during play and say this word over and over in many different contexts. An example may be the word "go" - the car can go, we can make the ball go, and your child can GO! Keep it fun! :)
- Boost receptive vocabulary. This refers to what your child can understand separate from what they are expressing. Receptive language skills are the building blocks to later expression, Ask your child to point to pictures in a book or "go find" different toys. Start with simple, one-step directions then increase to two steps!

