

Sample Preschool Small-Group Lesson Plan

Objective:

To provide a small-group lesson on the phonological awareness skill of identifying initial consonant sounds in words

Prekindergarten Guideline: III.B.7. Child can produce a word that begins with the same sound as a given pair of words.

Materials:

1. Pictures of pairs of words that start with same sound (Note: note cards with words; pictures only)
2. A small ball
3. Note-taking system for recording child performance notes

Lesson: Identifying rhymes

1. Quickly review listening to sounds (animal sounds and then letter sounds).
2. Explain that words may start with the same sound or different sounds.
3. Give a few examples: cat/car, boat/bug.
4. Give a few non-examples: fish/door, mat/rock.
5. Play a game to help children practice discriminating between words that do/don't start with the same sound. Hold up a pair of pictures. Say the name of each picture, emphasizing the first sound in each word. Ask children to tell if words start with the same or different sounds. After deciding whether first sounds are the same or different, children should practice saying the first sounds of each word. Continue picking pairs of pictures, alternating randomly between pairs that match or don't match in initial sounds. Have more than 2 pictures per sound to vary pairs.
Word pictures for lesson: cat/cake/coat, pot/pie/pig, dog/door/duck, ball/bike/bowl, tiger/tape/turtle, moon/mouse/monkey, sun/sock/soap

Step Down: Identifying initial sounds

1. Use individual pictures to ask children to identify the first sound of a word, e.g., (picture of fan) "This is a fffffan. What sound does 'fan' start with?"

Step Up: Matching initial sounds

1. Have children play a game by distributing 1 picture per pair of matching initial sound pictures, laying the others out on the table. Taking turns, ask a child to find the picture that starts with the same sound as the picture on his/her card. *Note: You may need to decrease the number of possible choices for children struggling with this skill (e.g., having only 4 choices instead of all 8).*
2. Play "Catch a Word": Say a target word (or one word from the pairs above), and then throw or roll the ball to a child. The child needs to say one word with the same starting sound as the target word and then throw or roll the ball back to the teacher.
3. Variation: The child passes the ball to another child who also has to say a word with the same initial sound as the target word. Continue the activity to see how many words you can list that start with the same sound as the target word.

Notes/Comments: You may help children come up with a word by giving clues, e.g., "I'm thinking of something that starts with 'sssss,' and it shines in the sky during the daytime."

Group: *The above lesson plan may change according to the grouping of children below.*

Group 1: Maria, Roland, Shelby

Group 2: Alex, Hanna, Kendall

Group 3: Maddie, Eric, Lucas

Group 4: Hope, Gustavo, Brady