



Activity: Mouth Dancing!

Skill: Voice Sounds, Tuning into Sounds

Preparation/ Resources:

- Music with a clear beat (e.g. on a radio, CD, phone etc.)



Look, Listen and Note:

- How well your child can articulate (move) their lips, tongue and mouth.
- Can they describe how they are moving their mouth?
- Can they spot differences between movements?



Activity:

Explore the different ways you can move your lips, mouth and tongue. E.g.: blowing, sucking, tongue stretching and wiggling.

Try copying each other's movements.

Practise making movements in time to the beat of the music.

Optional: look in the mirror and talk about the different movements you can make.

Practising these movements regularly to music can be fun and helps children with their articulation.



Activity: Can you make this sound?

Skill: Voice Sounds, Tuning into Sounds

Preparation/ Resources:

- None required.



Look, Listen and Note:

- How well your child can tell the difference between vocal sounds.
- How well they can make each sound using their mouth.

Activity:

Show children how they can make sounds with their voices, for example:

- Make your voice go down a slide - wheeee!
- Make your voice bounce like a ball - boing, boing
- Sound really disappointed - oh
- Hiss like a snake - ssssss
- Keep everyone quiet - shhhh
- Look surprised - oooo!
- Be a steam train - ch ch ch ch ch
- Buzz like a bumble bee - zzzzz
- Be a clock - tick, tock
- Gently moo like a cow - mmmoooo

Take it further:

Go on a sound hunt around the house and imitate the sounds of objects you find, e.g. water tap, Hoover, microwave, washing machine, clock, alarm, flushing toilet etc.

Play 'guess the sound'. Take turns to make a sound like something. Can the other person guess what the sound is?

When your child is playing with toys, encourage them to make sound effects to go along with their play.



Activity: Funny Voices

Skill: Voice Sounds, Talking about Sounds

Preparation/ Resources:

- A story book with different characters.



Look, Listen and Note:

- How well your child listens to the different voices.
- How well they can talk about how the voices are different.



Activity:

Read a story with multiple characters.

Ask your child: how can we change our voice to suit each character?

Talk about voice qualities such as high/ low, loud/ quiet, growly, soft, squeaky, honking, etc.

Take it further:

Can your child speak in a different voice?

Can they copy a voice you have made up?

Can they explain why this voice suits this character?

When your child is playing with toy animals or people, encourage them to use different voices for each toy to speak.

c - a - t

Activity: Sound Talk

Skill: Oral segmenting and blending

Preparation/ Resources:

- A soft toy
- Pictures of items with 3-sound words, e.g.:
 - o cat
 - o hat
 - o jam
 - o bed
 - o pig
- Objects can be used instead of pictures.



c - a - t

Look, Listen and Note:

- If your child can repeat the pure sounds in a word (e.g. c - a - t).
- How well your child can blend sounds to say a word.



Activity:

Introduce the toy and explain that it can only talk in 'sound talk' (single sounds).

Pretend that the toy is whispering a word with 3 sounds in your ear. Say the sounds aloud (e.g. j - a - m).

See if your child can 'blend' the sounds to say the word (e.g. jam) and find the picture.

It is important to say the pure sounds when using 'sound talk'. You can hear the pure sounds here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UCI2mu7URBc>

For an example of how to do sound talk with a toy, see here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vBAIpnN20Bs>

Take it further:

Show your child the pictures of items with 3-sound words.

Can they 'sound talk' the word for each picture and give it to the soft toy?

Film your child having a go at 'sound talk' and put it on tapestry for your teacher to see!



Activity: I-Spy Sound Talk

Skill: Oral segmenting and blending

Preparation/ Resources:

- A room or picture with items to spot.



Look, Listen and Note:

- If your child can repeat the pure sounds in a word (e.g. t - a - p).
- How well your child can blend sounds to say a word.



Activity:

Explain that you are going to play 'I-spy' but that you are going to give clues by sound-talking the word for the object.

E.g.: 'I spy, with my little eye, a z - i - p.'

Ask your child to repeat the sounds and blend to say the word, then point to the object.

It is important to say the pure sounds when using 'sound talk'. You can hear the pure sounds here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UCI2mu7URBc>

Take it further:

Swap and ask your child to give clues by sound-talking words for objects they want you to spot.

Film your child having a go at 'sound talk' and put it on tapestry for your teacher to see!