

# TWISTER LISTENING!

PLAY THIS CLASSIC GAME WHILE INCORPORATING LISTENING SKILLS AND BASIC CONCEPTS!

## THINK ABOUT . . .

Listening and following auditorily presented directions is a foundational skill for all children. It is a skill they will use on a daily basis at home and at school. Children need to learn to tune into the important parts of a direction, also called critical elements, in order to follow a direction successfully. They also need to learn vocabulary (e.g., colors and shapes) to follow directions successfully. Use the LSL strategy of auditory sandwich to strengthen your child's listening and language skills.



## ACTIVITY

- 1- Place Twister mat on the floor (see preparation instructions).
- 2- Review the vocabulary terms that you will use while playing this game with your child. You can do this by asking the child what the shapes and colors are on the Twister mat. Before giving your child an instruction, you want to make sure they understand the vocabulary terms you are using.
- 3- Tell your child that you are going to spin the spinner and give them a direction. Tell them that they can follow the direction after you say, "Go." (Make sure to keep the spinner out of your child's view so that you are incorporating the LSL strategy of auditory first).
- 4- Spin the spinner 1-3 times. The number of times you spin will depend on how complex you want to make the direction for your child. Tell your child the full direction after you are done spinning the spinner.
- 5- Give your child a direction based on their level.
  - 1 CE Direction Example: "Touch a red shape." "Touch a triangle."
  - 2 CE Direction Example: "Place a hand on a red shape." "Place a foot on a circle." "Touch a red shape and a blue shape." "Touch a circle and a triangle."

## MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Colored Shapes PDF
- Laminator
- Laminating Sheets
- Metal Brad
- Paper Clip
- Scissors
- Shapes and Colors Spinner PDF
- Tape

## PREPARATION:

- 1- Print out the Colored Shapes PDF.
- 2- Laminate the Colored Shapes PDF pages.
- 3- Tape the Colored Shapes PDF pages together so that you create a 4x3 floor mat. Tape all of pages so that each column is a different color and each row is a different shape. Note: If you want your child to play with one other person you will need to print out the Colored Shapes PDF twice and create a 4x6 floor mat. The last three rows will match the first three rows.
- 4- Print out the Shapes and Colors Spinner PDF.
- 5- Cut out and laminate the spinner.
- 6- Create a small hole in the center of the spinner.
- 7- Place the metal brad through the hole and flip the spinner over. Fold the back of the metal brad. Leave  $\frac{1}{2}$ " or so between the top of the metal brad and the part of the metal brad where you fold it back.

- 3 CE Direction Example: “Place a hand on the red triangle.” “Place a foot on the blue circle.”
- 4 CE Direction Example: “Place your left hand on the red triangle.” “First touch the blue triangle and then the red circle.”
- 5 CE Direction Example “First place a hand on the red triangle and then on the green square.” “
- 6 CE Direction Example: “Place your right hand on the yellow square and your right foot on the blue triangle.”

6- If your child follows the direction incorrectly show them how to follow it correctly and then repeat the direction auditorily.

7- If your child successfully follows several directions, you can increase the complexity of the task by adding one critical element to the direction.

8- Turn the spinner over and pull the unbent part of the metal brad through so that ½” of the unbent metal brad shows.

9- Place the paper clip over the metal brad to attach it to the spinner.

VOCABULARY:

- Colors (e.g., red, blue, yellow, green)
- Shapes (e.g., square, triangle, circle)
- Body parts (e.g., hand, foot)
- Ordinal concepts (e.g., first, then, last)
- Spatial concepts (e.g., right, left)

HELPFUL TIPS AND ADAPTATIONS:

- When the spinner points to a color and shape you don’t need to include both details in the direction that you give your child. For instance, if you spun a yellow triangle you could say, “Touch a triangle.”
- You and your child can take turns spinning the spinner and giving each other directions. While you are following your child’s direction you can model how to use the LSL strategy of auditory rehearsal. (“You said, ‘First touch the blue triangle and then the red circle.’ I’m going to repeat that direction in my head so that I can remember it”). This strategy will help them remember the direction.
- Your child can also play the game with another person. They can play until someone falls on the ground. When you do this, you will want to give each player a different direction so that they are not visually copying each other’s movements.
- You can use a real Twister Game for this activity.
- Instead of making your own Twister mat you can use different colored post it notes and draw shapes on them. You can place the post it notes throughout a room and give your child various CE directions.

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