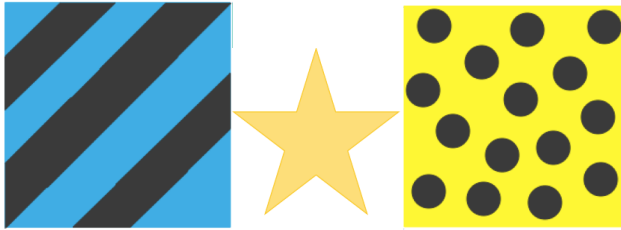


# SHAPES AND PATTERNS

## LISTENING TO DETAILS IN A SENTENCE

### THINK ABOUT . . .

Critical elements are small segments of a sentence that give important information. Children must pay extra auditory attention to these elements in order to understand the sentence as a whole. This activity will help your child to pay attention to the critical elements in a sentence as they search for the golden stars!



### ACTIVITY

- 1- Print and cut out the patterned squares and the gold stars.
- 2- Set the patterned squares out on the floor and hide the gold stars under a few of the squares.
- 3- Let your child know that their goal is to find all three of the gold stars. Tell them they have to listen to your instructions to know where to look.
- 4- Tell the child where one of the gold stars is hidden by saying, "Look under the [red, blue, yellow, or green] square with [big or little] [stripes or spots]." For example, you could say, "Look under the **blue** square with **big stripes**."
- 5- If your child finds the star, give verbal praise and move on to finding the next star.
- 6- If your child doesn't look under the correct square, repeat the instruction, using acoustic highlighting on any attributes that they missed. For example, if your child looked under the blue square with little stripes, you could repeat the sentence, emphasizing the word "big".
- 7- Repeat until your child has successfully found all of the stars.

### MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Shapes (see next pages)

### PREPARATION:

- 1- Print and cut out shapes pages

### VOCABULARY:

- Big
- Little
- Stripes
- Spots
- Square
- Star
- Green
- Red
- Blue
- Yellow
- Under

### HELPFUL TIPS:

- If this activity is too hard at first, you can reduce the difficulty by eliminating one attribute (e.g. taking out all of the squares with **big** stripes or spots and just focusing on color and pattern, not size of the pattern).
- You can make this activity more fun by placing a favorite treat or snack under the squares – just make sure it is something flat, so your child can't find it without listening to your instructions! Alternatively, you can have the child work for a treat; once they have found all the stars, they get their snack!
- Another way to make this activity fun is by taking turns. You start by hiding the star and telling the child where to look, and then they get a turn hiding the star and telling you where to look. This gives your child practice with expressive language, as well as listening!

Special thanks to graduate students in the Listening and Spoken Language Deaf Education graduate training program at Utah State University. These pages can be reproduced for educational purposes.

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