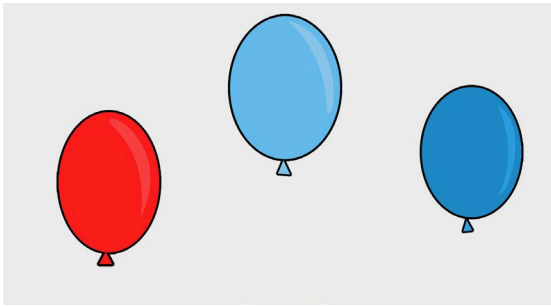


# "WHERE'S THE BALLOON"

## PRACTICE IDENTIFYING AND PRODUCING PREPOSITIONAL PHRASES

### THINK ABOUT . . .

The purpose of this activity is for your child to use correct prepositional phrases and expand their preposition vocabulary. Prepositions are words that describe an item's location such as *in, on, above, below, out, behind, in front*, etc. The Listening and Spoken Language strategy "auditory bombardment" can be used to help your child develop an understand of a variety of prepositions. For example, if your child says, "The balloon is under the table" you may say, "Yes, the balloon is under or beneath the table. Beneath and under are the same thing. The balloon is beneath the table." The frequent and repetitive use of the preposition *beneath* will increase your child's exposure to the word and its meaning.



### MATERIALS NEEDED:

- A balloon

### PREPARATION:

- 1- Set up an environment that contains items that the balloon could come in contact with.

### ACTIVITY

- 1- Blow up the balloon and ask your child what he or she thinks will happen if you let the balloon go. If they don't know you can explain that it will float around for a moment and then land somewhere.
- 2- Next, give your child an opportunity to make a guess as to where it might land. Possible responses may be, under the table, on the chair, in the sink etc.
- 3- When your child has made their guess, you can let the balloon go and see where it lands.
- 4- Ask your child to tell you where it landed. This provides an opportunity to use prepositions expressively. If your child produces the wrong prepositions, model it by using the accurate preposition.
- 5- If your child uses simple prepositions accurately and frequently, you can use auditory bombardment of a more advanced preposition to increase their exposure to it. For example,  
Child: The balloon is **by** the door.  
Parent: Yes, the balloon is **next to** the door. Next to means the same thing as by. The balloon is by or next to the door.

### VOCABULARY:

- Under
- In
- On
- Beneath
- Below
- Above
- On top
- Next to

### HELPFUL TIPS:

- Use other toy items to play games using prepositions. Find prepositions during everyday activities, such as "where is daddy?" "Oh, you're right! Daddy is next to the sink!" Don't forget to involve siblings or other family members and let your child be the one to listen for the preposition or be the one to ask the question.

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.

