

IDENTIFY AND PRODUCE PREPOSITIONAL PHRASES

THINK ABOUT . . .

This activity is a great way to practice the use of correct prepositional phrases and help expand your child’s prepositional vocabulary. Prepositions are words that describe an item’s location (e.g. in, out, on, off, above, below). “Acoustic Highlighting” can be used to help your child hear and understand a variety of prepositions. For example, highlighting “on” when saying “put the big rabbit ON the table.” This activity gives you opportunities to use “Acoustic Highlighting” and can encourage your child to listen to or give a variety of prepositional locations.



MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Forest Animals
- Camping Background
- Tape
- Folder or some type of Barrier

PREPARATION:

- 1- Print out 2 Campgrounds and sets of animals
- 2- Cut out the animals
- 3- Create a small cut on tent doors of each campground (for animals to go in and out of)

ACTIVITY

- 1- Follow preparation instructions.
- 2- Place your animals around your campground without letting the child see your page. Then, tell them that you want to see if they can make their campsite match yours.
- 3- Give the location of an animal and wait for the child to place their animal there, such as “The squirrel is on the table.”
- 4- For “in” and “out” vocabulary, you can change the animal’s location by saying “the bear decided to go in the tent” and take the bear either off the picture (if they are already placed) or off the table (if it is not of the picture) and slide them in the tent flap. Slide them out of the tent flap if they go out of the tent.
- 5- Once you’ve placed all your animals, remove the barrier and compare your pictures.
- 6- Play again with your child giving the directions.

VOCABULARY:

- | | |
|------------|---------------|
| • In | • In front of |
| • Out | • Next to |
| • On | • Between |
| • Off | • Table |
| • Under | • Bush |
| • Above | • Wood |
| • Tent | • Tree |
| • Bear | • Mouse |
| • Squirrel | • Rabbit |
| • Owl | • Big |
| • Bird | • Little |
| • Snail | • Chair |

HELPFUL TIPS:

- You can adjust the difficulty of this game based on your child’s individual needs. If your child is just beginning to learn prepositions, instead of doing a barrier game, you can create a scene together and can use additional LSL strategies such as “Auditory Sandwich,” (e.g. “let’s put the rabbit on the table.” Then, after they put the rabbit on the table, “you put the rabbit on the table”) and “Auditory Bombardment.”
- You can adjust the difficulty of the prepositional vocabulary you target. If your child is just beginning to learn prepositions, you can start by using simple prepositions (in, out, on, off) and then later move to more difficult prepositions (in front of, next to, between)
- The images in this activity are attributed to the website Vecteezy.com which allows free use of some pictures (under free license) for home use or with attribution. You can use free pictures to create your own barrier games.
- You can create your own camp area at home and have your kids or toys follow prepositional movements.

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.



© Utah State University, Department of Communicative Disorders and Deaf Education



