

FRUIT LOOP RAINBOW



Use fruit loops and marshmallows to test your listening skills.

THINK ABOUT...

Developing strong listening skills is an important aspect of your child's development after receiving cochlear implants or hearing aids. Do you know how well your child can listen? Sometimes children can fool parents and teachers when they follow instructions by watching what others are doing, but not because they listened or understood for themselves. Parents can be mindful of helping their child with hearing loss develop stronger listening skills through a variety of fun activities, such as the fruit loop rainbow described below:



ACTIVITY

- 1- Explain to your child that you are going to make an edible rainbow together using the marshmallows, pipe cleaner and fruit loops. You will take turns telling the other person which color to slide onto the pipe cleaner. In the end, you will compare rainbows to see how well you listened.
- 2- First, each of you will stick one marshmallow into the end of the pipe cleaner making a cloud and a base for the fruit loops to stack. Place a barrier so that your child cannot see your pipe cleaner. Then tell your child which colors to stack. For example, "Stack 3 red fruit loops." Make sure you do the same on your pipe cleaner.
- 3- Now allow for your child to direct you. For example, "Stack 2 green fruit loops next."
- 4- Go back and forth until your pipe cleaner is full. Finish up by placing the other marshmallow on the remaining end of the pipe cleaner. Bend the pipe cleaner into a semicircle creating a rainbow.
- 5- Now, compare your rainbows to see if your colors match. If you see some differences talk about them. You can talk about how sometimes it's tricky to listen, but if you keep practicing, it gets easier.
- 6- Celebrate and eat together!

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Fruit loops or another round colored cereal
- Two pipe cleaners
- Four large marshmallows
- Large binder or partition

PREPARATION

- 1- Find a good space to create a snack together (i.e. table or counter)
- 2- Place the binder or partition up. You can use books, fabric or whatever else you may have. Just ensure that you and your child won't be able to see what the other is making but can still hear each other. You can even turn your chairs back to back.
- 3- Set out some cereal, two marshmallows and one pipe cleaner for both players.
- 4- Other family members can also join in the fun.

VOCABULARY:

- Next
- After
- Compare
- Stack
- Bend
- Rainbow

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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