

HIDE THE LEAVES!

LISTEN CAREFULLY TO KNOW WHERE TO FIND THE LEAVES

THINK ABOUT . . .

Using the listening and spoken language skill of “whispering” encourages the students to listen even more carefully, which will in turn increase their auditory skills as they are developing several listening skills. Acoustic highlighting will also increase the student’s auditory memory. Expansion will give the student an opportunity to listen to expanded language based on utterances they provided, which will increase their own language.



MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Felt
- Scissors
- Tape
- Binoculars

PREPARATION:

1. Cut out pieces of felt into different leaf shapes
2. Ensure you have binoculars and tape if kids want to tape their leaves in certain places that tape would be needed

ACTIVITY

1. Each student gets a turn to hide a leaf somewhere around the room. The targets are spatial concepts such as “behind” and “under”.
2. They first have to listen to a direction that is whispered to them for the first few turns, and then they get a turn to whisper in the teacher’s ear where they want to hide it, making sure they can get the receptive and expressive understanding of the target.
3. Acoustic highlighting is utilized with the spatial concepts.
4. Expansion is used when the kids need help formulating the question, “Is it behind the bookshelf?”, “Is it under the table?”, etc. The teacher can then expand on the question after the child who hid the leaf responds: “That is right! She hid it under the table!”, “He did not hide it behind the desk. I wonder where else he could have hidden it?”, etc.

VOCABULARY:

Spatial concepts such as:

- Below
- Above
- Next to
- Behind
- In front of

HELPFUL TIPS:

- Provide reinforcement throughout the activity to encourage generalization of skills.
- The kids can use the binoculars to “look” for the hidden leaves to add another fun element to this activity
- Think about how this activity could be used with multiple materials, not just leaves. Leaves are fitting for fall time, but the item could be changed to snowflakes for winter, or flowers for springtime, etc.

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