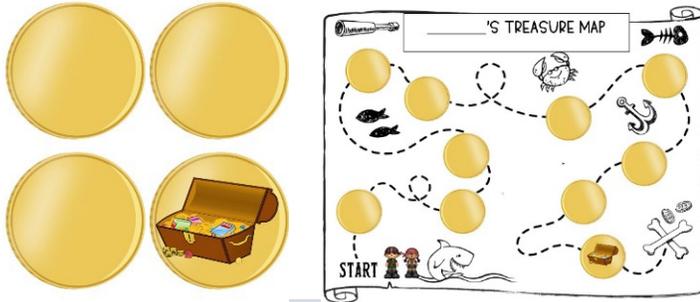


TREASURE HUNT FOR SPEECH SOUNDS

USE AUDITORY BOMBARDMENT TO LISTEN TO SPEECH SOUNDS IN WORDS WITH A TREASURE HUNT

THINK ABOUT . . .

AHOY MATEYS! According to the Reading Rockets website (2023), “Infants, toddlers and preschoolers develop oral language and pre-literacy skills every day that will help them become readers”. Children begin to listen and learn the sounds in speech and how each letter of the alphabet represents a different sound that is heard in words. These speech sounds can be present in the initial (beginning), medial (middle), or final (end) place of a word. A treasure hunt for words with different speech sounds is a fun way to spark children’s interest in new words and sounds. The goal of this activity is to use auditory bombardment to listen to a speech sound multiple times in words (ex. speech sound /d/ for **dragon** (initial), **spider** (medial), and **bread** (final)). This activity is adaptable and can be used to target any sounds in words you want for your child to listen to.



ACTIVITY

- 1- Show the treasure map and explain that you/your family will go on a treasure hunt for coins that are hidden around the area.
- 2- Every time you find a coin, stop, and discuss the picture that is on the coin. Use acoustic highlighting of the targeted speech sound of the word to emphasize the targeted sound.
- 3- As a coin is found, have the child or assist the child with marking an X on the treasure map coins.
- 4- As you find coins, review the words on previous coins found to use auditory bombardment of the targeted speech sound.
- 5- Continue this process until all coins are found and marked on the treasure map.
- 6- The final coin found would be the treasure coin found at the end of the treasure map. This is to promote excitement and celebrate the achievement of finding all the coins.
- 7- Once all coins are found, sit together, and review the coins found. You can celebrate your treasure hunt with a treat if you wish!

MATERIALS NEEDED:

- Pictures of the targeted speech sound family chooses (Alternative: Drawing pictures of targeted speech sound words on coins)
- Treasure Map PDF
- Gold coins PDF
- Marker

PREPARATION:

- 1- Choose the targeted speech sound you would like your child to be auditorily bombarded with in this activity. **Tip:** Think about the letter sounds and any speech sounds that your child’s teacher or SLP are working on with your child either in the initial, medial, or final placement.
- 2- Look up words that have this speech sound in the placement chosen. **Tip:** You could start with the speech sound in the initial (beginning) place of the word and then challenge your child with different sounds and placements later.
- 3- Paste or draw pictures on coins.
- 4- Hide completed coins around your home or designated area for your child to look for them. You can label the location of each coin on the map.
- 5- Write the child or family’s name on Treasure Map.

VOCABULARY:

- Targeted speech sound words
- Treasure
- Coins
- Map
- Find
- Hidden

HELPFUL TIPS:

- Choose words that are a mixture of child-friendly, familiar, and unfamiliar words to the child. Also, words that are heard and seen throughout the child's daily routines (moving through the day, getting dressed, kitchen capers, games, toys, etc.)
- Save the coins to use for another day.
- If you are unsure where to begin, always consult with your child's team (teacher, SLP, audiologist) or speech development chart. There are different ages that speech sounds are appropriately developed, however every child develops differently. Click on the link for more information: [Speech Sound Development | The Speech Guide](#)

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.

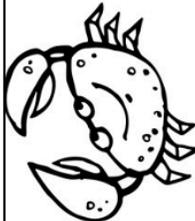
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***PDF

See printable map and coins on next page. . .

_____ 'S TREASURE MAP



START

