



ALL ABOUT SPEECH & LANGUAGE

ACE HOME PRACTICE WITH THESE EASY, FUN STRATEGIES FROM OUR SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGISTS!

1. **Be Positive; Give Compliments.** Always praise your child and draw attention to the really great things they say and do while you are working and playing together! If they use a vocabulary word spontaneously on their own, make a great comment, say a complete sentence, or use a targeted grammatical form/tense; commend them for it, and provide specific feedback! “Alex, I really like how you just remembered to put your special ending on the word: walkED, because you’re right, it’s something that already happened!”... “Bobby, you just used the word “enormous” in a sentence all by yourself; that was awesome!” This will make them smile, it will make you smile, and by pointing out all the great things they are doing, it will increase the likelihood that they will happen again!
2. **Let Them Be Teacher.** It’s time for role-reversal, and we all know that kids love to be in control and in the driver seat over their parents from time to time! Let them be the teacher and tell YOU WHAT TO DO! Let them give you directions to follow, play a board game or a made up game of their choosing, do art or make a craft together...whatever it is, let them tell you! This is a great way to monitor their use of vocabulary, grammar, adjectives, and their overall complexity of language. After they tell you what to do, repeat their sentence back to them and expand upon their ideas...by talking and engaging with your child, you are helping them meet their therapy goals! Your therapist will guide you on specific items to incorporate into these kinds of activities!
3. **Make a Binder/Folder.** Making a folder together, a binder, or something special around which all the review work, practice, and homework can be kept in is a great way to not only keep everything organized in one place, but to create a tool in which your child can easily access and refer to things that are being worked on. If you are doing homework, playing a game, or challenging your child to something rewarding; have them grab, for example, 2-3 words, sentences, or directions and review them with you for a cool prize or a chance to do something first. The awesome thing about a folder of practice is that it can be transported with you to squeeze in extra practice on the go such as in the car on the way to school, on a family trip, or even an afternoon walk!
4. **Re-live Experiences Together.** Whether it be that trip to the grocery store or to Disney, a weekend at the beach, a playdate; by coming back to those experiences, talking about them with your kids and doing activities around those experiences, you will be reinforcing a wide variety of language elements (i.e. sentence formulation, use of vocabulary and verbs, describing words, sequencing (first, next/then, last), etc.). Have them make a craft, journal, or diary in which they write, draw pictures, and re-tell their version of what took place. This is especially fun to do around shared experiences that directly revolve around your child (i.e. birthdays, a win at a soccer game, performance at a recital, etc.). Who



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doesn't love to talk about the really fun, exciting, awesome things they have experienced and achieved?!?!?

5. Daily Routines and Activities are Perfect Opportunities for Practice! Here is a short list of some activities, as examples, to help incorporate practice all while keeping things fun!

-Listen to music: listen to song lyrics for vocabulary, speech sounds you are practicing, or main idea of a song!

-Cook meals and bake: follow directions of recipes for "first, next, last" and weave in target vocabulary, concepts, and food-related categories.

-Make meal-time social: By engaging in conversation over meals, especially dinner, the mere act of talking is a great way to monitor your child's use of grammar, their sentence formulation, use of descriptive language, vocabulary, processing and responding to questions, etc. This is also a great time to monitor their social skills *for more information click here and embed updated social link within this flyer for an additional download opportunity*

-Have your own word of the day or incorporate your child's vocabulary lessons from school: Look up a new word, talk about the definition, make sentences, and see who can use the word most often throughout the day or while playing together!

- Use TV time to your advantage: After your child watches a show or movie, have them summarize what they just saw, respond to questions about the episode, and sequence order of events that happened while they watched the show!

-Daily routines, from school to chores at home, and extracurricular activities like sports, visits to the zoo, beach, aquarium, park/playground, family walks, music lessons, etc., provide countless opportunities to work on speech and language goals! Your therapist will guide you as to how to incorporate your child's specific goals into these activities for even more practice!

[CONTACT US TO LEARN MORE](#)

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