Attributes and Functions

Language Therapy Ideas

**Homework maker:** Create a list of from five to ten words at student’s level. Write directions such as the following: “Provide a function for each vocabulary word.” Write helper next to a blank line for any helper to sign. Provide individualized incentives for completed return. For example:

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Directions - Say a function of each vocabulary word.
1) ballot
2) election
3) voting
4) government
5) tax
6) senate
7) law
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**Catalog.** Get out a catalog. Talk about why people buy the items for sale in that catalog.
Example statements: “Why would somebody want a coat?” “It keeps you warm”. “Why do people buy wallets?”

**Textbook.** Get out a textbook. Instruct student to describe vocabulary words at or below student’s level by using functions.
Example statements: “What was a covered wagon?” “It was used to shelter pioneers during long trips.” “What is the Constitution?”

**Look around you.** Describe functions of objects in your environment or of things commonly seen in offices. Take a walk, and describe functions of things seen in the hall out the window, etc.
Example statements: “What is a stapler?” “It attaches papers together.” “What is a trash dumpster?” “It holds the building’s trash until the garbage men get it.”

**Specific interests.** For example, for younger kids, talk about video games, television, or sports, or for older students talk about cooking, construction, or health care. Discuss specific interests. Use the internet if needed.
Example statements: “What does a cutting board do?” “What does a remote do?” “What do anesthesiologists do?”

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