

Categories

Language Therapy Ideas

Role play: You are helping to plan the menu for a new restaurant. You're in charge of the dessert (or something else). Or, you are describing where you live. Use categories to describe the city, state, province, country, the form of government, etc.

Example statements: "Let's serve apple pie, cookies, chocolate cake, and ice cream." or "I live in St. Louis. It's a city, like New York. We live in a state called Missouri, like California is a state."

Use categories to decide who goes first in an activity. Think of a category member. Each person takes turns guessing the category member. Whoever guesses (or gets closest) the correct member goes first.

Example statements: "I'm thinking of a month. You guys keep guessing months until somebody guesses the one I'm thinking of. Whoever gets closest or guesses it first goes first."

Team up: With category pictures or word cards, have students divide into teams, e.g. the liquids and the insects team (or the "Wet Bugs") versus the mammals and planets team (or the "Hairy Planets"). Play a memory game. Alternately, simply see what team can be the first to get to 5, or 10 after the instructor picks cards from a pile.

Blurting game: Blurt out category members one at a time. If a team members states that's mine before the other team states that's theirs, they get a point.

Tic Tac Toe

Require students to label categories before placing their X's and O's. The winner in this example is the first to get four in a row. For variety and target specificity, create your own, or create with students.

Truman Lincoln	lizard snake	quarter penny	oxygen helium
rain snow	China Brazil	rough smooth	Snow White Harry Potter
trumpet tuba	catsup relish	bronze iron	Arctic Atlantic
subway airplane	waitress doctor	Spanish Latin	gasoline milk

Magazines. Search for curriculum relevant categories that you'd expect to find in magazines, like liquids, capital letters, etc. Use these pictures for category card activities. Search for category names or names of members to find pictures. Cut and paste on a document, and print out when document is full. Glue onto index cards and/or laminate if desired.