



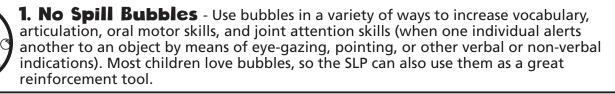
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What's in Your Bag?

by Lindsey Wegner, M.A., CCC-SLP

Every speech-language pathologist (SLP) can relate to the struggle of finding the right materials to use during therapy sessions, especially when working with preschool-aged children who require many different activities. Choosing just the right items to engage children as they improve their language and articulation skills can be a difficult task. It's important to include toys that encourage and increase social engagement and cognitive skills, as well as receptive and expressive language skills. Here are a few essentials to fill your speech and language bag.





2. Search Bag - Place different items inside a pillowcase, canvas bag, or another bag made with material that is difficult to see through. Have the child reach inside the bag to find the item you describe. This creates a sense of excitement, and it's great for language development.

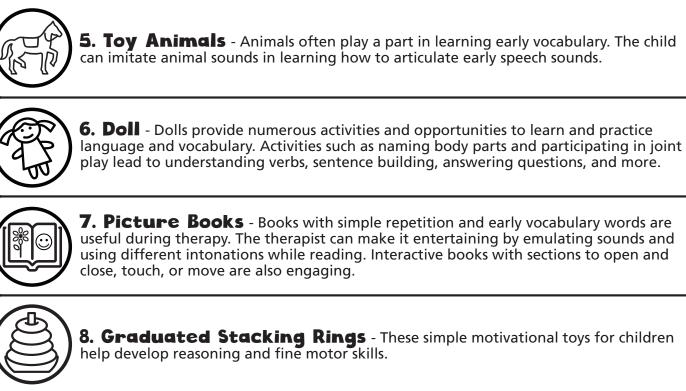
3. Ball - Increase joint attention, turn taking, fine motor skills, and vocabulary skills using a small ball.



4. Blocks or Building Materials - Simple blocks can assist in targeting basic concepts vocabulary such as: more, up, down, on top, under, tall, short, colors, etc. When you finish building with the blocks, it is fun to knock them down and start over again.









9. Wind–Up Toys - Target joint attention, asking for help, understanding simple commands, and work on fine motor skills using these small toys.



10. Puzzles - Target receptive and expressive skills using puzzles with different scenes, numbers, letters, animals, etc. For preschool-aged children, puzzles with wooden pegs or tiny knobs are best for little hands.

A well-packed speech and language bag can help an SLP keep children engaged with numerous activities, making every therapy session more productive and fun for everyone!

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