



SPEECH & LANGUAGE ACTIVITIES

Little Pea

by Amy Krouse Rosenthal

The story Little Pea presents fabulous learning opportunities for children to develop their speech and language skills.

Ask your kids wh-questions to see if your kids understood the story and their ability to recall details. If you're working on increasing mean length utterance, you can ask the kids to use complete sentences. For example, "Who did Papa Pea fling in the air?" Encourage the student to respond, "Little Pea goes up!"

Examples of Wh Questions?

- * Who does Little Pea live with?
- * Where did Little Pea like to roll?
- * Who did Little Pea like to hang out with?
- * What did Papa Pea use to fling Little Pea with?
- * When did Little Pea snuggle with his Mama Pea?
- * What did Little Pea have to eat for dinner?
- * How many pieces of candy did Little Pea have to eat?
- * Why did Little Pea have to eat his candy?
- * What did Little Pea eat for dessert?

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When working on these speech/language skills, I often like to use reinforcing materials to keep my kiddos engaged. After answering a question or practicing a speech sound, the child earns a turn to roll the dice, or earn a peg or puzzle piece (depending on the activity).

Reinforcing & Engaging

- * Provide the student with a strip of graph paper, or small spaces on a paper. After your student practices his/her speech sound or answers a question, provide him/her with a dried pea, or green pom pom to fill in spaces
- * Have child earn the small colored candies from our patterning printables, to form a line or place in a pretend "candy jar"
- * With each successful response, allow your kiddo to "fling" a pom pom with a plastic spoon

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YES / NO Questions

- * Does little pea live with his mother and father?
- * Does little pea have a brother?
- * Does little pea like rolling down the hill?
- * Did papa pea fling little pea off of a fork?
- * Did mama pea snuggle with little pea at bedtime?
- * Did little pea like candy?
- * Did little pea eat 4 pieces of candy?
- * Did little pea eat carrots for dessert?

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Following 1-Step Directions

- * Put the pea on the spoon.
- * Roll the pea down the block.
- * Put the pea next to the candy.
- * Put the pea on the bed.
- * Put the pea next to the block.
- * Put the pea under the blanket.

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Following 2-Step Directions

- * Put the pea on the bed. Cover the pea with a blanket.
- * Get a red block. Put the pea next to the block.
- * Get a plate. Put the pea on it.
- * Roll the pea down the block. Put the pea on the spoon.

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Vocabulary

- * Roll
- * Hang out
- * Pals
- * Snuggle
- * Dessert
- * Bleh
- * Meh
- * Yech

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Categories

- * Vegetables (pea, spinach, carrot, potato, broccoli, etc...)
- * Candy (snickers, Twix, lollipops, jelly beans, etc...)
- * Dessert (cake, pie, ice cream, etc...)

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Naming

- * Name 3 different kinds of candy
- * Name 3 desserts
- * Name 3 things you can play with your pals
- * Name 3 meals

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Same / Different

- * pea/broccoli
- * -andy/pea
- * compare and contrast different vegetables/candy

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Opposites

- * little/big
- * happy/sad
- * fast/slow
- * high/low
- * scream/whisper
- * healthy/unhealthy

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Using Absurd Sentences

- * Little pea liked walking down the hill.
 - * Little pea liked hanging out with his carrot friends.
 - * Papa pea would fling little pea off a fork.
 - * Little pea would scream, "Stop, stop."
 - * Little pea ate 5 pieces of pretzels.
- [Using absurd sentences improves auditory memory skills.]

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Fill in the Blank

- * Little pea likes to roll down the_____.
- * Little pea likes hanging out with his_____.
- * Papa pea would fling little pea off of a_____.
- * Little pea did not like_____.
- * If you don't finish your candy, you can't have your_____.

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Sequencing

- * Work on sequencing skills by retelling the story.
- * Children can act out and re-tell the story using small manipulatives or props (i.e., basket full of stuffed animals).

Little pea lived at home with his mama and papa. He was a happy pea. He liked hanging out with his friends and his family. There was one thing that little pea didn't like, candy. Every night, little pea had to eat candy for dinner. That made little pea sad because he hated candy. Papa pea told little pea to eat his candy so that he can grow big and strong. Mama pea told little pea to eat 5 pieces of candy so that he can have dessert. Little pea ate all five pieces of candy! Yuck!!! Mama pea gave him his favorite dessert, spinach! Yay! Little pea was so happy.

[Retelling stories helps improve comprehension, oral language, sequencing and narrative skills.]

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Identifying Essential Story Elements

- * Characters: Little Pea, Mama Pea, Papa Pea
- * Setting: Home and Playground
- * Problem: Little pea needs to eat his candy before he can have his favorite dessert (spinach). Little Pea doesn't like candy.
- * Solution: Little Pea eats 5 pieces of candy and then he gets his favorite dessert (spinach)

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