



SPEECH & LANGUAGE ACTIVITIES

Llama Llama Misses Mama

by Anna Dewdney

Llama Llama stories present fabulous learning opportunities for children to develop their speech and language skills.

Ask your kids wh-questions to see if they 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 wakes up Llama?" Encourage the student to respond, "Mama wakes up Llama."

Examples of Wh Questions?

- * Who wakes up Llama?
- * Where is Llama sleeping?
- * What does Llama brush?
- * Where is Llama going?
- * Who does Llama meet at school?
- * Who does Llama miss?
- * What do the animals play at school?
- * Why is Llama sad?

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 template of a Llama. After your student practices his/her speech sound or answers a question, provide him/her with a cotton ball to glue on the Llama
- * Puzzles are great reinforcers. Use any animal puzzles (i.e., animals in story include: Llama, zebra, goat, cat, sheep). After your student practices his/her speech sound or answers a question, provide him/her with a puzzle piece.
- * Dot Art (Llama): Provide the blank Llama template for children to 'stamp' a dot on their llama [download template file below]

YES / NO Questions

- * Does daddy wake up Llama?
- * Does Llama go to school in a bus?
- * Is Llama's teacher a Zebra?
- * Does Llama miss his mama?

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Using Absurd Sentences

- * Monkey, Monkey misses mama. (Llama, Llama misses mama).
- * Llama rides the bus to school. (Llama rides the car to school).
- * Daddy drives Llama to school. (Mama drives Llama to school).
- * Llama's teacher is an elephant. (Llama's teacher is a zebra).

[Using absurd sentences improves auditory memory skills.]

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Following 1-Step Directions

- * Put the zebra on the table.
- * Put the cat next to the zebra.
- * Put the giraffe in the bus.
- * Put the sheep on the chair.

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Following 2-Step Directions

- * Llama says touch your nose, Llama says wiggle your toes.
- * Llama says touch your ear, Llama says come over here.
- * Llama says touch your hair, Llama says sit on a chair.
- * Llama says touch your head, Llama says go to bed."

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Categories

- * Clothing (pajamas, pants, shirt, dress, jacket)
- * Feelings (happy, sad)
- * Animals (Llama, zebra, goat, giraffe, cat, sheep)
- * Friends (Identify friends at school)
- * Toys (blocks, balls, train)

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Vocabulary

- * Llama
- * Cuddle
- * Blankie
- * Stack
- * Blocks
- * Cars
- * Under
- * Tears
- * [types of clothing]
- * Blow [nose]

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Naming

- * Name 3 things you can wear.
- * Name 2 different feelings.
- * Name 3 animals
- * Name 3 friends
- * Name 3 toys

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Same / Different

- * Llama/Sheep
- * Zebra/Horse
- * 2 friends (i.e., same - Mark and David are boys. Different - Mark has blue eyes. David has green eyes).

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Opposites

- * Soft / Hard
- * Big / Small
- * Happy / Sad
- * Tall / Short
- * On / Off
- * Under / Over [On top]
- * Fast / Slow
- * Happy / Sad
- * Awake / Asleep

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Fill in the Blank

- * Llama, Llama warm in bed. Wakey, wakey sleepy ____ (head)!
- * Llama school begins today! Time to learn and time to ____ (play)!
- * Brush your teeth and blow your ____ (nose).
- * Drive to school and park the ____ (car).
- * Llama Llama misses his ____ (mama).

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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).

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

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Identifying Essential Story Elements

- * Characters: (Baby Llama, Mama Llama, Teacher, Friends)
- * Setting (school)
- * Problem (Baby llama misses mama)
- * Solution (Play with friends. School is fun. Mama will come back.)

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