

Listening Overview

Main Points:

The ability to listen and gather correct information is a skill that all children need to succeed in school and home settings. Everyone needs to be able to listen, clarify when needed, and understand verbal communication around them. When that ability is poorly developed or lacking the person faces difficulties not only in understanding the world around them but being able to follow directions and function to their best capacity. Yet we rarely teach listening and clarifying skills. Through this lesson students will be better able to describe listening skills and understand the importance of clarifying unclear information.

Essential Questions:

1. What listening skills are lacking in most people?
2. Why is listening important?
3. How can good listening skills improve your life (home, school, family, etc.)?

Alternate Books:

Listen Buddy by Helen Lester

Gabby by Stephen Cosgrove

Activities:

A-Play the “You Say, I Say” game.

Game rules:

Have the student sit in a circle. One student should begin by making a statement such as “My favorite Saturday activity is _____.” The next child reflects this by saying, “you like to watch TV on Saturday; I like to visit my father.”

Continue around the circle, each child giving his or her opinion after reflecting the previous child’s statement. The child only reflects the previous child not all of the voiced opinions. You may want to consider breaking the class into two or more groups if the class is large or time short.

B- The counselor role plays poor listening and has the students give feedback on what they observe. Have students discuss what good listening would be like. Have pairs of students role play good listening for the class. Pair up students and have them practice good listening skills.

Utah State Core Curriculum

K-2 Core -Fine Arts, Health, Physical Education, Science, and Social Studies

Standard 1 (Oral Language) Students develop language for the purpose of effectively communicating through listening, speaking, viewing, and presenting.

K - 1a,b; 1st - 1a,b; 2nd - 1a,b

3-6 Language Arts

Standard 1 (Oral Language) Students develop language for the purpose of effectively communicating through listening, speaking, viewing, and presenting.

3rd - 1a,b; 4th - 1a,b; 5th - 1a,b; 6th - 1 a, b

Listening Lesson

Review:

Briefly review the main points of the previous lesson and point out any connections to the current lesson.

Main Points:

A-Everyone needs to be able to talk to others and have them understand us. We also need to be able to really understand what others say to us but often we mis-communicate instead because one or more people are not listening correctly.

B- Read Falling for Rapunzel by Leah Wilcox

- 1- Did Rapunzel realize she couldn't hear him correctly? (Yes)
- 2- What should you do when you can't hear someone clearly? (Have them clarify, ask them to repeat, ask if you heard them correctly.)
- 3- Does it make sense that the prince would ask for Rapunzel to throw down her underwear? (No)
- 4- If something someone says doesn't make sense, what should you do?

C- To be an effective listener it is important to

- 1- Have eye contact.
- 2- Watch the speaker's expression.
- 3- Let the speaker finish what he or she is saying.
- 4- Ask follow-up questions or paraphrase what the other person is saying, especially when the meaning/message is unclear.

Challenge:

Practice good listening skills with your friends today.

Goals:

Students will be able to identify effective listening skills.

Students will be able to demonstrate appropriate listening skills with others.