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Designation: Special Educator

Topic: Basic Reading

ABSTRACT

As we all know that children with Down syndrome have delayed learning in different areas. One of the areas of delay is “**Reading**”. In order to reduce the delay, we need to introduce effective strategies from the child’s early years to help him recognize sounds, alphabets, words and gradually make him/her ready to read sentences like any typical child.

Skills Required for Reading:

Decoding - Ability to translate printed text into sound

Recognition: Ability to recognize written text visually and perfectly.

Comprehension: Ability to read text, process it and understand the meaning.

Fluency: Ability to read with speed, accuracy and proper expression.

Strategies to be introduced to learn

“Decoding skills”:

1. Sand paper tracing and calling out the sounds while tracing.
2. Writing the sounds on the kinesthetic sand and calling them out.
3. Matching at least 5 objects which start with each sound
4. Matching at least 5 pictures which start with each sound.
5. Alphabet puzzle

“Recognition skills”

1. Sound recognition activity: This activity is done once we introduce all the sounds to the child,. Spread sound blocks .Ask the child to pick up the sound being called out, start with two options initially. Once they start recognizing the sounds and are familiar with the game then increase the options.
2. Sight word reading: Introducing most common 50 words in red font.
3. Sound housie game & word housie game
4. Creative activity : Matching ice cream sticks which have sounds written on it to the colorful cards which have the same sounds written on it.

“Comprehension skills”

1. Picture to word matching: matching the consonant vowel consonant words (CVC) to the pictures.
2. Movable alphabet box: This consist of pictures and wooden alphabets which needs to be matched by building the word with the alphabets given .Another set of movable alphabet box consist of objects which needs to be matched by building the word with the alphabets given. (Did not understand)
3. Rebus method: Making sentences using words and pictures to make it easier for the child to read with fun.

“Fluency”

Start with “beginning readers “series of bob books. The main point about these books is that there are repetitive words in each page which makes it easier for the reader to remember and read and gradually read it fluently after reading many times . For example one page says “Mac got the rag” . Next page says “Mac sat on the rag”

Thank you,

Tejal Shah

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