Bucket time

Uses fun sensory activities to develop learners’ natural and spontaneous communication, attention, shared enjoyment, and turn-taking skills through the use of visually based on highly motivating activities.

Key Information

* Needs to be used on a daily basis
* Aim is the objects/activity is irresistible so learners want to sit.
* Consider the child’s interests.
* Can be done in a small group/ whole class
* Four stages from brief attention to sustained and complex activities.

Techniques

* Stage 1- The Bucket – a bucket of short, visually engaging toys presented one at a time by an adult.
* Stage 2- The Attention Builder – a longer sensory activity presented by an adult with a beginning, middle and end to sustain attention.
* Stage 3- The Interactive Game – a simple interactive turn-taking activity
* Stage 4- Individual Activity – adult demonstrates a task then each learner has a kit to complete and return to the group promoting independence skills.

See it in practice!







Tips

* In stages 1 and 2 DON’T GIVE THE OBJECTS OUT. Enjoyment is through watching the adult.
* Don’t use the same toys/objects as choosing time as this may confuse some learners since they are allowed to touch and now they aren’t.
* A shower curtain/ waterproof sheet will protect the floor and also provide a space between the adult leader and the learners to prevent the temptation of grabbing objects.
* The adult leading should be the most interesting person in the room.
* Ensure those supporting are modelling enthusiasm and not doing something else.
* Activities and toys can be changed regularly and themed around topics, seasons etc, e.g., Christmas, Halloween



