

20 Ideas to Practice Target Sounds

Kathleen Ross, MS, SLP, ECE

- Look in a mirror. Make the target sound as you watch your mouth. Add silly faces, too!
- Toss a beanbag/ball back-and-forth. Before tossing, make the target sound or a word.
- Play Memory. Child must label the target words pictured before flipping another card.
- Play Go Fish using the target words to request cards.
- Fill a Mystery Box (E.g., shoebox) with target sound items (E.g., cup, cat, car for initial /k/ sound)
- Create a Speech Book filled with magazine pictures of target words.
- Make a collage of pictures of target words glued to large paper
- What's Missing? from a field of three – four visible target sound items
- Describe pictures in books, apps, on walls. What do you see? Take turns focusing on target sounds.
- Play Guess Who. Child describes a person's features. Note target sounds and repeat.
- Count focusing on target sounds.
- Name colors focusing on target sounds.
- Create a story using several target words.
- Play Target Sound Hunt. Search for target sound words in the house, outside or while riding in a car, bus or train.
- Name body parts or actions that have the target sound (E.g., For 'th' -- thigh, thumb, think, thank, thud).
- Play "I Spy" with child describing target sound items in books, posters, pictures, or environment for others to guess.
- Make up rhyming words for ending target sound words (E.g., With target sound /k/, rhyme with 'back' or "sock" or "make").
- Make up silly names for people or pets using the target sound.
- Create silly animals with silly names using the target sound.
- Create a pretend meal, using made up target sound foods and drinks.
- Create your own games. You'll be surprised how easy it is to find target sound words.

Finally, generalize the learned skills.

*Do any of the above with a new friend or relative
to instill the target sound in all situations ---
the whole goal of learning.*

If you can do it here, you can do it anywhere!

