

Activities for Parents

Treasure Hunt

Create a list of words that you know may be in your backyard that contain the target sounds /r/ and/or /l/ (i.e., rock, rose, butterfly, grasshopper, flower, lady bug, and snail). Your child can help you create the list of words. Have your child say the words while you write them down. Go outside and hunt for things that are on your list. When your child spots an item that is on the list, your child should say the word to you and you can cross it off the list. Depending on the level of your child, you may have your child say the target sound at the word (i.e., “lady”) or sentence (i.e., “I see a lady bug”) level.

Search for the Rainbow

There are two ways to play this game.

1. While it is raining or after it has been raining, go outside and search for a rainbow in the sky. When your child finds the rainbow, have the child say all the colors that he/she sees in the rainbow. Make sure that your child correctly produces the /r/ and /l/ sounds while saying the colors. Please note that green and blue include r- and l-blends and not just the /r/ or /l/ sound, so they may be harder to produce. You can talk about how Kelly found the rainbow in the book.
2. If it is not raining, hide a picture of a rainbow in your house. Have your child ask questions to find out which room you hid the rainbow. (i.e., Is it in a room with a _____ - refrigerator, television, towel, chair, hall closet, carpet, picture, telephone, computer, cupboards?) Please note that the question should include a word with either an /r/ or an /l/. Once the child has asked the questions, the child needs to go into the room that he/she thinks has the rainbow and search for the rainbow. To make it more challenging, you can give a time limit for finding the rainbow.

Prepare Food with your Child

Make a food or drink item that was in the story “Kelly’s First Rainstorm” with ingredients, actions, and/or objects that include the /r/ and/or /l/ sounds. Some suggestions of things to make that include the target sound /r/ or /l/ are as follows:

1. Hot chocolate (target words: milk/water, chocolate powder, vanilla, marshmallows, stir)
2. Lemonade (target words: water, sugar, lemons, yellow, stir, pitcher)
3. Sliced oranges (target words: oranges, orange, sharp knife)

Please note that you should be able to find a recipe for hot chocolate or lemonade in a cook book or online. While you make the above items, have your child follow the steps given by the recipe and say the ingredients that contain a /r/ and /l/ out loud. This also works on the language skill of following directions.

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