

Smooth Talk Story Time

Requirements

Picture book (age-appropriate)

Timer

Stickers (optional)

Instructions

Introduction (5 minutes): Begin by introducing the book and the concept of smooth talking. Explain that today, we'll be practicing smooth talking while reading the story. Discuss what smooth talking *looks* and *sounds* like - good breath support, slower rate, gentle starts, and pausing.

Model Smooth Reading (5 minutes): The SLPA will model reading a page or two of the picture book, demonstrating fluency techniques. Focus on:

Using gentle onsets for words.

Slightly slower rate of speech.

Pausing at natural breaks in the sentences.

Maintaining good breath support.

Avoiding rushing through sentences.

Practice Reading (15 minutes): Take turns reading the story. The SLPA will prompt the client to utilize the techniques discussed. For each turn:

Assign a page or section of the book to the client.

Before the client begins, remind them to think about their breath support, gentle starts, slower rate, and pauses.

During reading, provide gentle cues as needed ("Remember gentle start," "Pause for breath," "Slow it down just a bit").

Offer positive reinforcement for each attempt, even if the fluency is not perfect. Focus on the effort and implementation of the techniques.

Wrap-Up (5 minutes): Summarize the session and review the fluency techniques practiced. Ask the client to identify one technique they felt they improved upon. If using stickers, award one for participation and effort. Remind the client that smooth talking takes practice, and encourage them to continue using the techniques in everyday conversation.