

Story Chain: Fluency Fun!

Requirements

Timer

Optional: Picture prompts

Instructions

Introduction (5 minutes): Begin by explaining to the client that they will be participating in a storytelling activity focused on maintaining smooth speech and engaging in conversation. Briefly review fluency strategies they have been working on, such as easy onsets, light articulatory contacts, and pausing.

Story Starter (2 minutes): Start a story by saying one or two sentences. For example, "Yesterday, I went to the park, and something unexpected happened."

Chain Reaction (18 minutes): Set the timer for 2 minutes per turn. The client will add to the story using 2-3 sentences, focusing on incorporating their fluency strategies. If using picture prompts, present a new picture at the start of each turn to guide their contribution.

Remind the client to focus on using strategies such as easy onsets and light touches to promote smooth speech. Encourage the client to elaborate and develop the characters, setting, and plot of the story.

Take turns adding to the story until the time is up, or the story reaches a natural conclusion. Make sure to model fluent speech and conversational turns.

Provide positive reinforcement and specific feedback on the client's fluency and conversational skills after each turn. For example, "That was a great addition to the story! I noticed you used easy onsets very well when describing the dog."

If the client experiences a disfluency, gently remind them of the strategies and provide support without interrupting the flow of the story.

Wrap-up (5 minutes): Once the activity is completed, have a brief discussion about the experience. Ask the client:

"What did you enjoy about this activity?"

"What strategies did you find most helpful?"

"How did you feel about your fluency during the activity?"

Provide final feedback and encouragement, reinforcing the importance of practicing fluency strategies in various conversational contexts.