

Auditory Perception Activities

Play tag using sounds – Targets the goal "Sound localization"

Example: One person is "it" and is blindfolded. The other people run up close to person who is "it" while making different types of sounds and noises. Person who is "it" tries to tag other people by following direction of sounds.

Variation: One person is blindfolded and another person plays a drum while moving around the room. The person who is blindfolded tries to catch the person playing the drum by following the sound.

Variation: Targets the goal "Distinguish a specific sound from among others (figure-ground)"

Everybody yells out different words or sounds. The person who is "it" is told to tag only the person who produces a specific word or sound. The person who is "it" must then discriminate that particular sound or word from the cacophony of words and tag the person who is producing it.

Musical Navigation – Targets the goal "Follow directions without visual clues"

One person chooses four instruments to play, with each instrument being designated to represent movement in a different direction. Another person is blindfolded and practices walking in a different direction by using musical cues.

Example: Tambourine = take one baby-step forward
Triangle = take one small step sideways to right
Maraca = take one small step sideways to left
Claves = take one baby-step backwards

This action involves navigating the person who is walking blindfolded through a maze by following musical cues to know which direction to go.

Find the ring by sound – Targets the goal "Recognize when a sound changes"

A ring is hidden (may use an object) so that it is in plain view but is located where you would not ordinarily find a ring. (For example, in tongue of a person's shoe, between shoe laces). One person is removed from the room while the ring is hidden and then returns to the room. Classmates provide auditory cues to help the person find the ring by humming softly when the person is far from the ring and yelling out loudly with a higher pitch when the person gets closer to the ring. Students are instructed not to look at location of ring because this would give away the secret. The person searching for the ring must rely on these auditory cues to find it.