

Adapting Books (Adaptations are based on directions from Pati King Debaun www.creativecommunicating.com)

Books need to be adapted so any child, regardless of their ability, can positively interact with literature.

We adapt books 3 ways:

1. We insert pages into page protectors and put them in a three-ring binder.
2. We laminate each book page, punch holes about an inch from the left side and insert rings.
3. We make baggie books. (instructions below)

We make removable page fluffers (instructions below) and also use clothespins as an alternative, removable page fluffer.

We make props for the story. Extra copies of the book pages are printed and the relevant pictures cut out, laminated and velcroed to the appropriate page. (Instructions below) Props store in the last baggie. Some props are made and instead of Velcro, a magnetic strip tape is adhered to the back so the props can be used with a cookie sheet. Others are glued onto Popsicle sticks and stuck into a disk of kid's dough, making stand-up props. Actual object representations from the story's main theme are also prepared for learners who require more concrete representations to improve comprehension.

We print out relevant pictures from the story on a business card printer sheet and the corresponding text on another business card sheet to make supplement activities material.

Ex.: Sequencing the story, matching picture with text description

We make each page of the story a PowerPoint Slide so the book can be accessed on the computer and the "page turned" with a mouse click.

Families can also use a video camera and have someone record them as they read the story and use their finger as a guide to the words. If the camera remains steady, this can become another adaptation for computer access or the TV. For the child who uses AAC with environmental controls, books on DVD can be a fun adaptation.

Family members can read books on audio tape and use this in addition to the written text. Tape players can be accessed with switches so a child can initiate the reading.

We also rewrite favorite stories in script form for "acting it out" and use simple, yet fun props to contribute to the experience.

Baggie Books:



A finished baggie book

You will need:

- 2 copies of the story (one copy is for making props described below)
- Zip lock Baggies (storage size works well)
- Stapler, scissors, ruler, marker
- Cardboard (if story is not printed on stock paper)
- Packing tape
- Duct tape



1. Draw a line one inch from the closed end



2. Stack the necessary number of baggies, as determined by the story, and with the lined baggie on top, staple along the line. Tip: Stapling a pile baggies is not complicated but the baggies slide making that first staple tricky. Staple each end first before filling in with staples.



3. Insert story pages into each baggie with a page of cardboard in between the two pages.



4. Adhere a strip a packing tape down the center of each opened page to strengthen the baggie.



5. Using 2-inch duct tape, create a binding. Fold over half of the tape.

Removable Page fluffers:

- Cardboard
- Paperclips
- Glue
- Sponges



Cut a 2 inch x 2 inch square of cardboard and slide a paperclip on. Glue a small piece of sponge (or foam) to one side of the cardboard.

Props:

Cut out the pictures from a copy of the story. Laminate or cover both sides with clear contact. Adhere a piece of sticky back Velcro, I put the soft side of the Velcro on the baggie and leave the stiffer piece of Velcro on the prop.



Props can be stored in the last baggie.