


Helping with narrative skills

User Guide:
Black Sheep Press Reception Narrative

<p>The intervention</p>	<p>Black Sheep Press Reception Narrative pack</p> 
<p>Where to find it.</p>	<p>Reception Narrative, narrative skills for age 3-5 years - Black Sheep Press</p>
<p>How much does it cost?</p>	<p>£65</p>
<p>What does it target?</p>	<p>Attention and listening, understanding of language and use of language.</p>
<p>Who is it for?</p>	<p>Reception: 4-6 years.</p>
<p>What is it?</p>	<p>A pack of lesson plans, picture resources and activities to teach a narrative framework and narrative skills to reception-age children. Includes small group session plans which can be adapted for whole class activities.</p> <p>The activities progress from raising awareness of story elements to retelling stories and creating stories. Includes narrative component activities for 'who', 'where', 'when', 'what happened' to support literacy activities and the wider curriculum.</p>
<p>How does it work?</p>	<p>Small group work, whole class activities as required.</p>
<p>Who can deliver it?</p>	<p>Teachers, Teaching Assistants, Speech and Language Therapists.</p>
<p>How long does it take?</p>	<p>A small group (4-6 pupils) should be run for 30 minutes twice a week. The ability of the group will dictate how long the programme takes to complete. Longer may need to be spent on certain concepts to ensure the students have fully understood.</p>

<p>What resources do I need?</p>	<p>The programme contains the session plans and some paper resources. If using paper copies, staff could laminate the colour sheets and story component cards for durability and ease of use.</p> <p>Small people play toys such as people and animals may be useful for some activities. A selection of story books may be useful for some sessions.</p> <p>Knowledge of Makaton question signs will be useful for staff for example 'who' and 'where'.</p> <p>The £65 is for a school site licence so the resource can be downloaded onto a maximum of 5 computers/laptops or used on the classroom smartboard.</p>
<p>How do I show progress?</p>	<p>Black Sheep Press recommend using their squirrel story narrative assessment (ages 3-6) at the start and end of interventions to monitor progress.</p> <p>Communication Trust tracker is an alternative (ican.org.uk).</p> <p>Progress against age related norms on the Early Years Foundation Stage trackers.</p> <p>Before starting the interventions ask the child to retell you a story they are familiar with. Write down exactly what they say. After the interventions ask them to tell you the same story again and compare the length of sentences used, the detail provided and if they include all elements such as who, where, when and what happened next.</p>
<p>What next?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black Sheep Press have a range of narrative programmes on their website. • Discuss elements of the story throughout the day with children to support carryover and repetition of vocabulary in different environments.
<p>Top Tips</p>	<p>If children are struggling with a concept in the session, this session can be redone to ensure the children fully understand.</p> <p>Allow time to print and prepare for sessions. Once this is done it can be reused every year.</p> <p>Be mindful of the colour coded prompt cards – ensure they match with any other colour coding being used in school as the Colourful Semantics colours are different.</p> <p>The Makaton website has useful core signs and tips for signing Home (makaton.org).</p>
<p>Additional resources</p>	<p>Please see the Black Sheep Press website for further tips and advice and links to research articles about its products BSP, speech & language resources for schools, therapists & parents (blacksheepress.co.uk).</p>
<p>Evidence base</p>	<p>See journal article which used this resource in a study: Carroll, Bowyer-Crane, Duff, Hulme, Snowling, (2011), Developing Language & Literacy: effective intervention in the early years. Chichester: Wiley.</p>