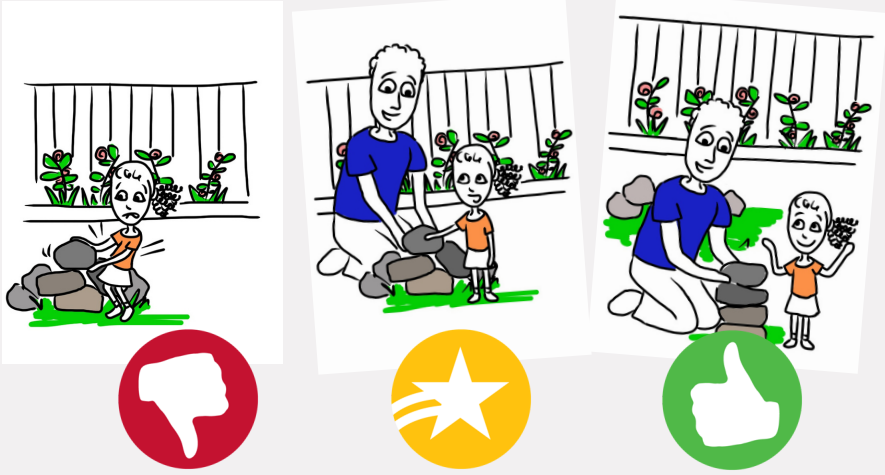




Simplifying Story Champs

• Always include an episode

- If you have to shorten the story, maintain the episode structure: problem-action-ending.
- Teach a three sentence and three part story using the pictures and icons.



• Try backward chaining

- When the child retells, remove only the last picture. When the child retells the story again, remove the last two pictures, etc...until all pictures are removed (fade icons too).
- When child retells, say the entire sentence except the last word and let the child fill it in. Then on the second retell, say less of the sentence and let the child fill in the rest.

• Narrow the focus, if needed

- If the child is not ready to retell the story, just focus on building vocabulary, emotions, past tense, or lengthening sentences using the pictures.
- You can also focus on listening comprehension; children can point to the pictures that correspond to what part of the story you say.

CHILDREN ARE READY TO RETELL WHEN THEY...

- Consistently use speech or AAC to request
- Point to objects and pictures when asked
- Follow directions
- Use at least one word or symbol to describe objects and pictures

Speakers

- Read the entire story to model complex language
- Rephrase and model what the child should say
- Emphasize verbs over nouns
- Use varied and specific verbs
- Model past tense
- Accept incorrect grammar temporarily according to ZPD

AAC Users

- Read the entire story
- Model and prompt using child's device or core board
- Use graduated guidance and vocalize as the child points
- Start with 1 symbol per part
- Noun-character; verb-problem; adjective-feeling; verb-action; verb-ending



Things to Remember

- Fade visuals within session to reduce prompt dependency
- Avoid promoting memorizing the specific story--it's about building generalizable skills, not repeating that story
- Keep the storytelling tasks meaningful and fun--if motivation decreases, make a change
- Repeat stories in cycles, not on consecutive sessions
- Use the center activities on the flash drive to extend intervention

More Stories?

- Use English PreK NLM Listening stories and Spanish PreK illustrations
- Use Story Starter Cards to elicit story generations or create your own short stories
- Sequencing cards
- YouTube videos

Technology

- Digital presentation on the Story Champs flash drive
- Google Jamboards for interaction and simplifying
- Try Boom cards
- Follow @kknighththerapy on IG for storytelling freebies