

Games to play

The Tray Game - Beginnings

- You need a tray of four objects, each beginning with **sss**, e.g. *sweets, scissors, stone*.
- Collect some other objects beginning with **sss**, and some beginning with other phonemes, e.g. *mug, fork, candle, pencil*.
- Ask the children to name each object on the tray.
- Repeat each name, sustaining the first sound, e.g. *sssauceer, sssock*.
- Ask the children to repeat after you.
- Ask which sound they all start with. Help the children, as necessary, until they all say **sss**. Establish that the tray of objects is called the **sssss tray**.
- Now the children can examine the reserve objects which may or may not begin with **sss**.
- They should name each object and can be helped to exaggerate the first sound to determine whether it belongs to the **sssss tray** or not.
- Note that it is not necessary at this stage to know what the non-**sss** words start with.

Simon Says Special

- Ask the children what they can hear at the beginning of *Simon* and *Says*.
- Tell them that Simon is going to tell them what to do and they must do it.
- Say: *Simon says put your hands on your heads*.
- Give them two more instructions.
- Tell them that children with other names such as Susan, Steven, Martha, Sanjay, Peter, Gareth are now going to give them instructions.
- If the name of the person giving the instruction begins with **sss** the children should do it, but if not, they should not, e.g. if Peter says **Stand up**, ignore it because Peter does not start with **sss**.

Teaching the Puppet

- You need a puppet and a bag of objects beginning with the same phoneme.
- A child is invited to take something from the bag and teach the puppet what it is called. He/she tells the puppet what the object is.
- The puppet (you) attempts to repeat the word after him but gets the first sound wrong, e.g. if the object is a **sock**, the puppet says **lock**.
- The child and the class repeat **sock** emphasising the initial sound until the puppet says it correctly.
- The game can also be played with a bag full of objects beginning with objects starting with different phonemes.