

Written Words Share a Message - Teacher Script

Skill/Objective: The child will recognize that spoken words can be represented by written words.

Materials Needed:

- One children's picture book
- One prepared sentence strip reading The cat sleeps.
- A picture of a sleeping cat
- "Written Words Share a Message" worksheet
- Pencil or crayon

TEACHER SCRIPT

Today we are going to discover how our words can be heard and seen.

When I say, "The cat sleeps," you can hear my spoken words. Spoken words come from my mouth, travel through the air, and reach your ears. Listen again: "The cat sleeps."

Now look at this sentence strip. It says, The cat sleeps. These are written words. Written words show the message that I said aloud. When someone reads the sentence, the written words help that person say the message again.

Let's look at a picture of a sleeping cat. The picture helps us understand the message, but the picture and the written sentence are not the same thing. The picture shows the idea. The written words tell the message using letters and words.

Books are filled with written words. When I read a book aloud, I turn the written words on the page into spoken words that you can hear. Even when the book is closed, the written message stays on the page so we can read it again later.

Let's review. Spoken words are words we hear. Written words are words we see and read. What happens when I read written words aloud?

PRACTICE

The child will listen as an adult reads written sentences aloud and match each printed message to the picture that shows its meaning.

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GUIDED PRACTICE

Show the child the picture of the sleeping cat.

1. Say, "The cat sleeps."
2. Explain that the child just heard a spoken message.
3. Display the sentence strip The cat sleeps.
4. Point beneath the written words while reading the sentence aloud.
5. Explain that the written sentence represents the same message.
6. Place the sentence strip beside the sleeping-cat picture.
7. Repeat with two additional oral examples, such as:
 - The dog runs.
 - The girl reads.
8. Ask after each example:
 - "Did you hear the message?"
 - "Can you see the written message?"
 - "Which picture shows what the written words mean?"

INDEPENDENT PRACTICE

The child will complete the "Written Words Share a Message" worksheet by listening to four printed sentences and matching each one to the picture showing the same message. An adult must read every sentence aloud. Independent decoding is not expected.

REVIEW

Ask:

- Which words can we hear: spoken words or written words?
- Which words can we see on a page?
- What happens when someone reads written words aloud?
- Can written words help us remember a message?
- How is a written sentence different from a picture?

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ASSESSMENT

Present three unfamiliar picture-and-sentence pairs. Read each printed sentence aloud while pointing beneath the words. Ask the child to match each sentence to its picture. Then ask:

"What do these written words do?"

An acceptable response may include:

- "They tell a message."
- "They show what you said."
- "You can read them."
- "They turn into spoken words when you read."

Record performance as:

- Independent
- With a prompt
- Not yet

The objective is met when the child matches at least two of the three sentences to their pictures and demonstrates that written words carry a spoken message.

Written Words Share a Message - Examples



**The cat
sleeps.**



**The dog
runs.**



**The girl
reads.**