



DAISY DOG'S DAYS

An oral language resource based on seven days in the life of a dog called Daisy.

The program includes:

- *Instructions for use.
- *2 copies of 3 barrier game scenes.
- *2 cut-out laminated bones and 2 Daisy dog.
- *7 x 5 part sequence photos.

A CD-ROM containing:

- *7 pages of stories to accompany each sequence (oral or written task).
- *7 pages of 5 "Cut-ups"; sentence strips to accompany each sequencing picture.
- *A memory game to print
- *A copy of the barrier game scenes.
- * 35 JPEG images.
- *A week chart

How to use the contents:

Sequence Activities: Start with Monday. Read the Monday Story to the child. Encourage the child to close their eyes and try and picture what is happening in the story. This visualisation can assist with comprehension of text later in school years. You will notice that some of the words and phrasing is quite advanced, so feel free to adapt the language to the child's abilities, however don't always avoid tricky words. Instead, talk about these new words and relate them to words that the child already knows. This "word stimulation" is an important part of language development. After you have read the story, have the child try and fill in what happened next. (For children who are able to read and write, this can be a literacy task. You may photocopy the sheet and have them write their answer in the space provided).

Next, lay out the five photos and have the child put them in order. Did they guess the ending correctly?

If needed, re-tell the story with the photos present and then encourage the child to tell the story again. For children who find this difficult, the adult may need to do every second picture, or provide the starts of the sentences such as "Then Daisy jumped in the ..."

More Sequencing Fun: All of the photos are provided on the CD-ROM as JPEGs and can be inserted into Microsoft PowerPoint™ or other slideshow software. In PowerPoint, a narration can then be recorded. Usually this is as simple as clicking on RECORD NARRATION. As each next slide is clicked, the child continues with their story. On completion, the narrated slideshow can be played back. This is usually very motivating and is wonderful for self-monitoring. Record the slideshow to a flashdrive or CD and send it home for the story to be rehearsed again. In a future session, you may like to record the same story again and compare the two attempts.

Using the "Cut-ups": Simply print the corresponding page for the sequence you are completing. Cut up the sentence strips and mix up. Have the child order the photos for the sequence and then arrange the corresponding sentences. You may need to read each sentence to the child or they may be able to do so themselves. When the sentences are arranged beneath each photo, see if the child can tell/read the story back to you again. The "Cut-ups" encourage a child to use words and phrases such as "then, next, finally, in the end..." and so on. They are, however, only the "bones" of the story. You can extend the activity by having the child expand on each sentence.

Using an iPad™: The pictures can also be sent home with a child who has an iPad and this way, the telling of the story can be rehearsed again. It's a great way to practise recall and past tense.

The easiest way to transfer the photos to an iPad is the following: Send an email to the iPad with the photos attached. Save the attached photos to the PHOTOS section. Next, in the PHOTOS section, click on ALBUMS, choose EDIT and NEW ALBUM. Name the album "Monday" or "Tuesday" etc... Next click on ALBUMS, EDIT, click on the newly-named album and then ADD PHOTOS. Go to PHOTOS and select the five downloaded photos. Click DONE. Now check the album by opening it. Click and drag the photos into the correct order, if needed. You're done!

Now an adult can prompt the child to tell the story with a sentence like... "Tell me what happened to Daisy on Monday?" and the child can go through the photos, recounting the story.

Barrier Game Activities: There are three barrier game sets. You may like to put these into plastic slips or laminate for durability.

Separate each player by a barrier. Give each player the same sheet, a Daisy dog and a bone. A bit of Blu-Tak™ on the back of these can be useful. Have Player 1, place the bone and Daisy on their picture and without showing it to Player 2, explain where they have placed the items. Player 2 must make their picture the same. Remove the barrier and see if the message was conveyed correctly. Stress that the aim of the game is for BOTH PLAYERS to make their pictures the SAME. This takes a CLEAR MESSAGE and CAREFUL LISTENING! For more information on barrier games, email info@loveandreilly.com.au

The Week Chart: There is a WEEK CHART that can be printed out from the CD-ROM. This is a great sheet to mark off the stories that a child has completed and give them a sense of progress through the program. It is also a nice way to try and stimulate recall.

After a child has completed a particular day's story, have them draw a little scene from the story in the box. This should be a picture about the MAIN theme of the story.

When a few days have been completed, the chart can be reviewed and questions asked about what happened. For example, "Can you remember what Daisy did on Monday? Let's see if we can find Monday on your chart and see what picture you drew."

After recalling about what happened on Monday, you could then ask "What happened the next day? What's the next day called? Let's look at your chart..."

This is a great activity that reinforces the names of the days of the week and also their sequence. You can even talk about the concept of "weekend".

Memory Game: From the CD-Rom you can print two sets of the Memory Game. You will find 9 pictures arranged in a flashcard format. Cut up the cards and laminate. A game of Memory can be played to reinforce some of the vocabulary used in the stories.

HAVE FUN WITH DAISY THE DOG!

Note: *No animals were harmed in the making of this program – in fact, Daisy (AKA Chilli) quite enjoyed the bone and the pie. You should, however, feel sorry for the author who had to fall into the cold water in the middle of winter.*

Photography: Dave Whyte