

#3 LIKE A REPORTER

REPORTING

It should take you four sessions to introduce reporting.

PREWRITING

Day One:

1. You might want to talk to your children about reporting: where it is done, by whom and what it's like. You could talk about the different kinds of reporters there are, like newspaper and TV reporters, child protection workers, scientists and policemen.
2. Explain what will happen on day two to give your children a chance to think about what kind of reporting might be done.

Day Two:

1. Yesterday you explained that there would be a chance to report on an exciting event. One of your family members will have to play a part in this activity. If you don't have a volunteer for this part, you might ask a neighbor to help.
2. Your children should "hide" in the living room and watch the "subject" come into the room and do a "good deed." This can be cleaning the room, bringing flowers as a gift, or any other nice act. This person will then leave the room or house.
3. You should have your children verbally list the events witnessed. This should be done in the order the events happened. Your children will have a tendency to omit some of the events. There will be a tendency to "report" that Mrs. Jones brought the flowers and put them on the hall table. Insist that the details be included.
4. Ask your children what the first action was that they saw, then ask what was the next, and so on. These actions should be numbered.

The responses might sound like this:

- 1) *The door opened.*
- 2) *Mrs Jones looked in the room.*
- 3) *Mrs. Jones came in the room.*
- 4) *Mrs. Jones looked around the room.*
- 5) *Mrs. Jones had flowers in her hand.*
- 6) *Mrs. Jones walked over to the hall table.*
- 7) *Mrs. Jones put the vase of flowers on the table.*
- 8) *Mrs. Jones arranged the flowers so they were pretty.*
- 9) *Mrs. Jones left the room.*
- 10) *Mrs. Jones closed the door.*

WRITING

Days Three and Four:

1. Your children should write at the top of the page “Good Deed Report,” or “Newspaper Story.” Encourage them to put in the report all of the details noticed on day two. The listing made on day two can now be written. Ask to have the listing written in full sentences. The report’s events should not be numbered or written in list form.
2. If your children choose to write the report as if it were to be for a newspaper, your children then could write headlines:

GOOD DEED DONE IN LOCAL HOME

or

LOCAL REPORTER WATCHES GOOD DEED

Remember to fill out the writing skills mastery check-off form on page iv and, if necessary, to record spelling words on page vi and other problems on page vii that you need to address in the future with your children.

Your children should now spend about a week reading and discussing ideas with you.

RECORD OF PROGRESS

Your student should fill out this page.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Exercise #3 LIKE A REPORTER

This is the best sentence I wrote this week.

This mistake I made this week and I will not make it next week.

This is the sentence that had this mistake in it.

This is the sentence again showing how I fixed this mistake.

Comments: