THIRD EDITION
Developing Language and Communication Skills through Effective Small Group Work
SPIRALS: FROM 3–8

MARION NASH WITH JACKIE LOWE AND TRACEY PALMER

A David Fulton Book
Developing Language and Communication Skills through Effective Small Group Work: SPIRALS: From 3-8, Marion Nash, Jackie Lowe, Tracey Palmer, Taylor & Francis, 2010, 0203848357, 9780203848357, 118 pages. Poor language and communication skills have been shown to have profound effect on the life chances of children and young people. Research tells us this consistently over the years. Now in its third edition, Developing Language and Communication Skills through Small Group Work provides essential information for practitioners working with linguistically vulnerable children. It is underpinned by an approach based on developmental psychology and brain based research. The book provides clarity and repetition of key concepts at a level that this particular cohort of children require. The book now includes a section on using the power of puppets to support communication. Feedback from practitioners is that it is not only fun to run the SPIRALS groups but also highly effective in providing the support the children need. The SPIRALS language book contains a wealth of effective ideas for activities to support good practice to develop children’s speech, language and communication development. The most powerful way to use Spirals is as set out in the sessions as an ongoing programme. Although these activities can be used as stand alone ideas to target a particular area of concern. The sessions have been carefully designed to build upon children’s existing skills base. Small spirals of learning are introduced at a pace the children can access and retain. SPIRALS supports good practice in early years settings and schools up to KS2. The aim is to develop effective language and communication skills which will underpin a range of critical thinking, reasoning and social competency skills as well as increased ability to listen, maintain focus and learn effectively. Also it has been shown that improvements in levels of spoken language can have a positive impact on written literacy. Included in this book are: concise explanations of the terms and concepts involved clear guidelines for setting up and running small group sessions structured lesson plans twelve for nursery and early primary years photocopiable resources lists of further reading and resources. New to this third edition includes: revised Early Years and Reception Year material fully updated to reference the Bercow Report (2008) new section on using puppets effectively additional ‘bubble commentaries’ offering useful tips and suggestions to teachers. This fully updated edition will be particularly useful for teachers, teaching assistants in early years and in schools, speech and language therapists and assistants interested in the Spirals language development technique.

Early Years Stories for the Foundation Stage Ideas and Inspiration for Active Learning, Mal Leicester, 2006, Education, 106 pages. Presents a collection of themed stories and activities for preschool students that promote their cognitive and emotional development.


Teaching and Learning in the Early Years, David Whitebread, Penelope Coltman, May 3, 2002, Education, 384 pages. Young children do have specific needs, and the education we offer them should reflect these needs. It must take into account the ways children learn and develop - crucial ....


Language Development for Maths Activities for Home, Marion Nash, Jackie Lowe, Sep 5, 2013, Education, 144 pages. Building upon the successful ‘spirals’ programme this series of books addresses language development in three core areas of the curriculum. Linking the work done in school with ....

Helping Children to Improve their Communication Skills Therapeutic Activities for Teachers, Parents and Therapists, Deborah Plummer, Aug 15, 2011, Education, 176 pages. For many children, the act of communication which most of us take for granted can be a struggle, and communicating with others can become something to fear rather than enjoy ....

Planning Play and the Early Years, Penny Tassoni, Karen Hucker, 2005, Curriculum planning, 324 pages. Written for early years practitioners and students, Planning Play and the Early Years provides full-colour, fully illustrated guidance through the process of planning and ....
Children's Language and Communication Difficulties, Julie Dockrell, Jun 3, 1999, Education, 196 pages. Children's language difficulties affect many areas of functioning and development. Since most children with these difficulties are expected to function in ordinary schools and ....


Communication Language and Literacy in the Early Years Foundation Stage, Helen Bradford, Nov 12, 2012, Education, 144 pages. The Practical Guidance in the Early Years Foundation Stage series will assist practitioners in the smooth and successful implementation of the Early Years Foundation Stage ....

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The SPIRALS language book contains a wealth of effective ideas for activities to support good practice to develop children's speech, language and communication development. The most powerful way to use Spirals is as set out in the sessions as an ongoing programme. Although these activities can be used as stand alone ideas to target a particular area of concern. The sessions have been carefully designed to build upon children's existing skills base. Small spirals of learning are introduced at a pace the children can access and retain.

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'Teaching staff, assistants in schools and nurseries are finding this book invaluable. It is a good idea which is fully resourced, simply produced, gives a terms worth of language work for the most needy pupils and above all is fun for both adults and children. How can it be so much fun and so effective at the same time? I'm just glad that it is! Well worth buying and putting into practice with small groups of 6 to 8 linguistically vulnerable children. The positive effects spread into the classroom.' - Customer Review, Amazon

Marion Nash currently focusing her Doctoral research on her professional interest in speech, language and communication needs. Marion provides training for Early Years settings, primary schools, speech and language therapy service teams, local authorities with 'I Can', the national speech and language charity.

Acknowledgements Introduction Sessions for Nursery Materials Timing Key teaching points Main concepts covered in Nursery sessions Nursery sessions 1-12 Sessions for Foundation/Key Stage 1 Materials Timing Key teaching points Main concepts covered in Foundation/Key Stage 1 sessions Foundation/Key Stage 1 sessions 1-12 Sessions for Key Stage 2 Materials Timing Key teaching points Main concepts covered in Key Stage 2 sessions Key Stage 2 sessions 13-24 Appendix: photocopiables

These simple play-based photocopiable activities are ideal for parents and carers who want to help their child improve his or her language skills. Each stand-alone worksheet has been designed for
use in the home environment. Activities are linked directly to the 36 school-based sessions in the companion book.

These play-based activities are ideal for early years practitioners and teachers to copy and give out to parents who want to work with the nursery or school in partnership to help their child improve his or her language skills and have fun at the same time. Activities are linked directly to the school-based Language Development Circle Time sessions and cover key concepts and skills to develop understanding, listening, and talking.

Building on the successful ‘Spirals Language Programme’ developed by Educational Psychologist Marion Nash and specialist Speech and Language Therapist Jackie Lowe, this series of books addresses language development in the three core areas of the curriculum. Activities have been tried and tested with proven effectiveness.

This book is the first of its kind to help practitioners and teachers specifically develop children’s language skills in Science. The book includes guidelines to help teachers set up, run and assess circle-time sessions and ideas for promoting children’s thinking skills and emotional literacy. Video CD included to illuminate practice.

This three pack includes the Language, Maths and Science ‘Activities for home’ books from our ‘Spirals’ series. Building on the ‘Spirals’ programme, successfully trialled in Plymouth schools this series of books addresses language development in three core areas of the curriculum.

Early years practitioners, parents and carers, child minders, health visitors do you need effective ideas for giving your babies and toddlers support to become confident talkers? National research shows that poor language and communication skills have a profound effect on the life chances of children.