

Speech/Language Carryover Activities

Magnets



Magnets are a fun and easy way to incorporate both speech and language into your child's everyday routine and play activities. Magnets are available in a wide variety of choices, from alphabet magnets to animals and other everyday functional objects. Below is a list of ways to use magnets with your little one at home:

- 1) **Early literacy/literacy skills-** Using alphabet magnets can help provide phonological and print awareness at an early age, even before your child is reading. It also helps children sound out sounds in words and work on spelling skills.
- 2) **Categories-** Using magnets with functional objects, your child can group objects by category. For example, you can create sections on a cookie sheet to separate/sort food items vs. animals. This is an important early skill for children to help teach vocabulary and semantic skills.
- 3) **Spatial concepts-** You can use either magnets with functional items or alphabet magnets to incorporate following directions with spatial terms or teaching the concept by placing a letter between, under, above, or next to various objects.
- 4) **Following directions-** It's easy to incorporate directions with magnets, as well! Set out a group of various items/letters and have your child listen for which items to put on and in what order. For example, you can do 2-3 step directions by stating, "Put on the letter B and then put on the giraffe". Sequential directions can be incorporated, as well by stating, "Put on the letter A and the letter C after you put on the monkey".
- 5) **Learning the alphabet-** You can use alphabet magnets as a fun and interactive way to help your child learn the letters and sound-letter correspondence. Playing phonics songs while learning will be even more motivating if your child enjoys music!

