



Pacific Coast Speech Services, Inc.

Serving Southern California Schools for 25 Years.

WELCOME TO ANOTHER CRAZY AND EXCITING SCHOOL YEAR!!!

We know you are moving FAST, so this issue features quick ideas to speed your prepping and add fun to your sessions.



PICTURES PLEASE - NOW!!!!

Yes, you can muddle through with Google Images, and some of us use Boardmaker, but isn't there a less expensive and more effective way to create materials quickly? One of our summer goals was to experiment with **LessonPix** and **Smarty Symbols** and make a choice on "best fit" for our caseloads. Smarty Symbols icons are available as an app called [Custom Boards](#) as well as a more comprehensive web-based system called [Smarty Symbols](#). [Lessonpix](#) is an internet based system, with pictures easily downloadable or printable.

Our overall impressions? All three are colorful, flexible, and easy to use for a very reasonable price. Here's what our clinicians thought:

- Looking for speedy with lots of pre-made templates? At \$36/year, LessonPix is a steal, and will save you buckets of time. A student group could easily create a dice/board game/etc!
- Spotty Internet and an iPad? Custom Boards is excellent, and is \$55 with no additional purchases. Basic templates are available.
- Maximum picture choice and flexibility? Plan to create products to sell? Smarty Symbols is the clear winner at

\$9/month. Grid style templates are available or pictures can be downloaded to create other products.

We are lucky to have such amazing developers working for our students. Thank you Lessonpix and SmartyEars!



EFFICIENT BEHAVIOR SUPPORT

Anyone have a student that needs some behavioral support? This [fabulous blog](#) has strategies for various behaviors, broken down by intervention tier!

For example, suppose you have a student on Tier 1 struggling with negative self talk. Here's a link to the specific strategy of [substituting words](#). Let's suppose that that same student continues to struggle with negative self talk after they have been identified for special assistance. Would teaching self monitoring skills help? Here are some [strategies and resources](#).



Generalization Data Collection Tool

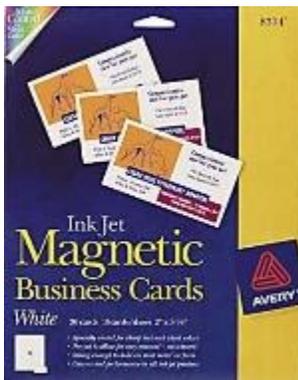
Who doesn't have a student who needs to generalize their speech production skills to other settings? Angela Neal, a school based SLP from South Carolina, created a [Monthly Practice Calendar and Data Collection](#) tool that is going to become a mainstay with our clinicians.

The worksheet has everything you need for data collection: a pre and post test, a spot for the student to set their accuracy and practice goals for the month, and a chart for plotting data. Quick, motivating, and flexible for any speech production task! Only \$3! We love Teachers Pay Teachers!



QUICK TIPS FOR NEW SCHOOL BASED SLPs

Start by reading [this blog](#) and reviewing [this site](#). Both have excellent resources for SLPs new to the schools, or for those who have been in the schools many years and are considering reevaluating their methods.



QUICKLY MAGNETIZE

Looking for a fast and easy way to magnetize anything made of paper - visual schedules, student drawn pictures, language stimuli? Try [business card magnets](#)! Available at office supply stores and on Amazon, business card magnets are the size of a business card and sticky on one side. Packaged in sets of 10 - 100, these thin magnets can be cut to any size with scissors. Pair this with a magnetic board or even a cookie sheet, and you have an easy way to keep a list or visual schedule, barrier game, or a sorting/categorization activity. The possibilities are endless! Perfect for using the pictures from the libraries discussed above. Our local dollar store even had self stick magnet squares and clipboards!



FAST AND FUN MATERIALS

Speech Corner! Our SLPs love the materials from this small, family-owned company, especially those at the elementary level. Many of [Speech Corner's](#) materials integrate innovative dice or "dot markers." Their materials cover a wide variety of

areas, are student favorites, and offer a welcome diversion with their dot markers and fun dice.



Decide Now!

For 99 cents, [Decide Now](#), is a fun app addition to your iPad therapy tools. In a nutshell, it is a Wheel of Fortune style spinning wheel, which can be customized for colors, sounds, and content. The SLP who recommended it said that she has created 25 personalized wheels by groups/goals including categorization, descriptors, following directions, spontaneous language and answering questions. She adds a "free" slot to each one with a goofy version of the activity. This app would be popular with teens as well as younger students. The element of randomness is addictive: who doesn't like to spin a wheel of chance?



One of our partner districts has a need for a SLP to consult with teachers and students once a month at their private schools in the Ontario/Pomona/Claremont area. If this is an area of interest to you, please email [Louise Valente](#). The time commitment would be less than 8 hours per month.



Jokes for Kids

We know your favorite part of our newsletter is the kid jokes, but did you know that you can get PCSS curated kid jokes on Twitter? Follow us on [@PCSSinSoCal](#) for a morning kid joke. Here are some of our recent favorites.

What kind of scientist discovered soda? A fizzicist!

What did the mama snake give her baby snake at bedtime? A good night hiss!

What is an alligator's favorite drink? Gatorade!

What is harder to catch the faster you run? Your breath!
