PLAYFUL INTERVENTIONS (T, O, C, M)

Fun, inviting, self-correcting activities for students who might benefit from additional practice with letters

CONSTRUCTION VEHICLES AND PEBBLES

Need: small construction vehicle, small pebbles (3-4 printed with each focus letter), felt “hills” printed with focus letters,

Directions: Student loads one pebble into the construction vehicle and identifies the letter on the pebble. Student drives the pebble to the correct hill and repeats the name of the letter. Student unloads the pebble and says the name of the letter again. Continue until all pebbles are delivered.

SQUISHIES AND BEDS

Need: small squishies printed with focus letters (2-3 per letter), laminated paper beds printed with focus letter (enough for each squishie to have one)

Directions: Student chooses one squishie and says the name of the letter printed on it. Student finds the bed printed with the same letter, points to the bed, and says the name of the letter. Student puts squishie in the bed and repeats the letter name. Continue until all squishies are in bed.

BOWLS, SCOOPS, AND STONES

Need: 3-4 small bowls in fun shapes or colors (1 per focus letter), label with focus letter for each bowl, small counting stones labeled with letters (2-3 per focus letter), small scoop

Directions: Student scoops up one stone and says the name of the letter printed on it. Student points to bowl with the same letter and says letter name. Student drops stone into the bowl and says the letter name again. Continue until all stones have been placed in bowls.
STORAGE
Choosing a colorful, fun storage container makes these activities even more enticing. We suggest big, sturdy boxes. Within each container, materials should be stored in smaller bags to distinguish groups of target letters. We suggest grouping the letters by fours (TOCM should be in the first bag). Being prepared in this way will make pulling and implementing these activities quick and easy.

MAKE IT FUN!
The directions are very basic. Let your personality shine and make these activities fun. For example, when playing with the construction vehicles, you can say the letter name in a "beeping" tone while backing up the vehicle or say it like a rumbling engine when driving the vehicle forward. Encourage the child to play in a way that is fun for them. The important thing is engaging with the letters and having the child say the target letter names as often as possible.

MORE TO COME
We are continuing to develop playful intervention activities. Suggestions are welcome. We would also like to hear from you about which of these three activities are hits or flops with your students. Keep us posted and share your experience!