**THE BIG IDEA:** Children will practice their memory and literacy skills by recalling, observing and writing to build sentences and create a story.

**HERE IS WHAT YOU WILL NEED:**

- Tray
- 20 Random Items such as: Rubber Band, Comb, Fork, Eraser, Flower, Pencil, Rock, Band-Aid, etc.
- Pencil
- Paper
- Blanket or Napkin

**HOW TO DO IT!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STEP 1</th>
<th>STEP 2</th>
<th>STEP 3</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gather &amp; Organize</strong> random items found around the house on a table or tray. Cover the objects with a blanket or napkin. Before showing your child the objects, <strong>ask</strong> your child what the word observe means. <strong>Observe:</strong> Have your child silently observe everything that is on the tray for 30 seconds. Cover objects after 30 seconds. <strong>IN STEP 1 YOUR CHILD IS PRACTICING...</strong></td>
<td><strong>Remember &amp; Write:</strong> give your child paper and a pencil. Encourage your child to make a list of everything they remember seeing on the tray. Encourage them to do this <strong>silently.</strong> If you have more than one child, once each child has created a list encourage them to share their lists with one another and create a <strong>Master List.</strong> <strong>IN STEP 2 YOUR CHILD IS PRACTICING...</strong></td>
<td><strong>Sentence Building:</strong> encourage children to build sentences using the items they remember. To take it a step further, encourage children to build a story using the items from their list. Encourage children to write their sentences / short story. <strong>IN STEP 3 YOUR CHILD IS PRACTICING...</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Observation Skills - Intro to Vocabulary</td>
<td>- Memorization Skills - Writing</td>
<td>- Sentence Building - Story Building - Writing</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TIPS & TRICKS**

- Use fewer object for a younger child, and more objects for an older child.

- After children talk about what the word observe means, encourage your child to “zip it and throw away the key” to remind them that Step 1 and Step 2 is done silently. At the end of writing down their list, remember to “find the key” and unlock their silence!

- If your children can’t remember many items the first time, have more items ready to do a second or third round. This will help your child practice their memorization skills.
MEMORY STORIES

WHAT IT COULD LOOK LIKE:

Materials Used:
Random Objects
Tray

Materials Used:
Paper
Pencil
Chart Paper
Chart Markers

TEKS:
K - ELAR: §110.2 (K.2Cii) (K.3B) • 1st: ELAR: §110.3 (1.2Cii) (1.2F) (1.3B) • 2nd - ELAR: §110.4 (2.7D-F)
• 3rd - ELAR: §110.5 (3.7D-F) • 4th - ELAR: §110.6 (4.7D-F) • 5th - ELAR: §110.7 (5.7D-F)

For more information on TEKS that were applied to this activity, please visit
tea.texas.gov/academics/curriculum-standards/teks/texas-essential-knowledge-and-skills