

## Suction Cup Ball and Target



I'm finding this little suction cup ball an amazing tool for a pragmatics group activity. It sticks well to slick surface such as white boards, windows or mirrors. It is also very inexpensive. It can be found in party favor stores for less than 50 cents apiece.

I used this activity to practice answering questions, stay on topic, and contribute to a topic that has already been started.

I drew a target with erasable markers making 5 to 6 rings. I labeled the rings with numbers 1-6. I made a corresponding list of numbers and had the students brainstorm conversation starters. For the beginning of the school year, they came up with questions such as:

1. Did you take a road trip during the summer?
2. Did you learn anything fun?
3. Did you get anything new?
4. Did you eat any fun foods?
5. Did you see any movies?
6. Did you read any books?

The students then took turns throwing the ball at the target and then answering the question to the ring it landed on. The other students were then required to ask a follow up question according to the answer and topic.

Students of any age enjoy this activity and they have plenty of opportunities to practice language skills as turns went quickly. We have a number of students who really don't know how to enter a conversation or respond back on topic. I am hoping that this activity provided enough rehearsal they will transfer some of these skills to the playground.

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