

Classroom Strategies for Pragmatic Language

- Provide opportunities for small group and partner discussion
- Provide reminders for turn-taking in classroom discussion, games, and other activities
- Post a visual reminder to stay on-topic (e.g., target symbol)
- Ask questions for elaboration (e.g., Tell me more about that. Why did you choose that?)
- Use a variety of different question types including WH and open-ended questions
- Incorporate prediction and inferential questions, providing assistance with comprehension as needed
- Repeat/rephrase questions and important information
- Provide opportunities for students to generate stories (e.g., written or verbal)
- Model active listening and nonverbal communication
- Encourage students to ask questions when help or more information is needed
- Provide explanation and examples when using figurative language or abstract terms
- Incorporate opportunities for role-play or making connections to real-life scenarios (e.g. checking out at the grocery store)
- Assign the student(s) classroom jobs that may require social interaction (e.g. collecting lunch orders, collecting worksheets, etc.)
- Incorporate opportunities for problem solving, allowing students to brainstorm solutions to relevant problems
- Include emotion/feeling words given opportunities (e.g., discussing characters in a story)
- Stay in touch with your friendly school Speech Pathologist for student-specific strategies