Special Ed Teacher and SLP
Collaborating and Creating Learning Units
Suzanne Slaughter - Special Education Teacher

- 1997 Winthrop University, Bachelor of Science in Special Education
- 2009 Brenau University, Masters Degree in Special Education
- Autism Academy, Piedmont College 3 year course certification
- Middle School and Elementary School experience
- Special Olympics Volunteer Coordinator - Region 5
- 2016 Jefferson City School System Teacher of the Year
Mandy Mizenis - Speech-Language Pathologist

- 1996 Centenary College of Louisiana, Bachelor of Science in Applied Sciences
- 1998 Louisiana State University, Master's Degree in Communication Disorders
- Certificate of Clinical Competence (CCC-SLP) - American Speech-Language Hearing Association
- Georgia License Speech-Language Pathology
- Autism Academy, Piedmont College 3 year course certification
- School-Based Speech-Language Pathologist 18 years
- Experience with 3 year olds- High School, last 10 years with age 3 -2nd grade
Why are we here?

Participants will learn:

❖ To apply collaboration strategies among teachers and SLPs of students with intellectual disabilities.
❖ To create low and high tech materials for children with intellectual disabilities.
❖ To create learning units to teach academic, social-emotional, daily living, and communication skills.
Self Assessment: Rate yourself using the scale

1=Novice    2=Advanced Beginner    3=Competent    4=Proficient    5=Expert

Creating well rounded thematic units   1   2   3   4   5

Collaborating with your SLP or Special Education Teacher to combine forces to accomplish goals     1    2    3    4    5

Creating low tech materials to aide in instruction  1    2    3    4    5

Using high tech materials to aide in instruction     1    2    3    4    5
Collaboration

Teamwork
Exchange
Inspiration
Share
Success
Assist
Trust
Support
10 years of collaboration with each other leads us to admit:

2 heads are better than 1

Who “shares a brain” with you?
Collaboration: Ways to make it happen when time is limited

- Text messages
- Emails
- Share google docs
- Share ideas on Pinterest
- Lunch
- Video Clips
- Take pictures with your phone
- Making time because it’s IMPORTANT!
Collaboration is what binds us together!

Door Prize Time
Planning Thematic Units

- Theme
- Reading / Language Arts
- Math
- Social and Emotional
- Science & Social Studies
- Fine Motor
- Gross Motor Movement
- Daily Living & Field Trips
- Language Skills/Communication
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weekly Plan</th>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Reading</th>
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<th>Science / Social Studies</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Week 1</td>
<td>Introduce Language for the unit</td>
<td>Book with small object props</td>
<td>Counting &amp; creating sets with thematic objects</td>
<td>Science: exploration with 5 senses</td>
<td>Self-awareness &amp; Self-management</td>
<td>Read Adapted Cookbook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 2</td>
<td>Use the language to address IEP goals</td>
<td>Book with velcro pictures</td>
<td>Simple adding &amp; subtracting with objects</td>
<td>Social Studies: Historical Figure or Event</td>
<td>Social Awareness</td>
<td>Read Cookbook Daily &amp; Collect Supplies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 3</td>
<td>Use the language to address IEP goals</td>
<td>Book with small object props</td>
<td>Measurement: Length &amp; Height</td>
<td>Science: Experiment &amp; Record</td>
<td>Relationship Skills</td>
<td>Cook using the cookbook</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Week 4</td>
<td>Use the language to address IEP goals</td>
<td>Book with velcro pictures</td>
<td>Measurement: Weight</td>
<td>Social Studies: Theme in current day</td>
<td>Responsible Decision Making</td>
<td>Write about Cooking / Field Trip</td>
</tr>
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</table>
Language Skills/ Communication

- Vocabulary: Core & Fringe
- Language Structure
- Receptive & Expressive Language Skills for the “Theme”
- Communication Strategies
- Pragmatic Language
- Speech Production (for some students, not all)
Addressing Language Skills in All Settings

Use of Core Vocabulary on Individual Communication Devices with Opportunities for Practice Across Settings


Low Tech Communication Boards for Core and Fringe Vocabulary for Thematic Units

Fringe Vocabulary for Thematic Units within Individual Communication Devices

http://theautismhelper.com/core-and-fringe-vocabulary-what-it-is-how-to-use-it/

Pictures from Chat Editor showing the ChatPower30 Core Vocabulary with Symbol Sticks by Satillo Corporation [https://satillo.com](https://satillo.com)
Expressive Language: Alternatives to Speech

- Picture Exchange
- Picture Symbols
- Communication Boards
- Gestures
- Signs
- Augmentative & Alternative Communication Devices
- Switch Devices
Know Your Students:
- Teacher & SLP work together to choose language to teach
- Teach the language as a team
- Use the language that you have taught as a team
- Practice, Practice, Practice!!

Team = SLP, Teacher(s), Paraprofessionals, Parent(s), Get the other students involved as encouragers & communication partners
Addressing Receptive & Expressive Language Skills within the Unit

Borrow materials from various games to create new language games

- Identifying actions
- Labeling actions
- Pronoun usage
- Formulating sentences
- Noun-verb agreement
Addressing Receptive & Expressive Language Skills within the Unit

- Manipulatives and story props used to help address language skills

Pumpkins Everywhere from http://chapelhillsnippets.blogspot.com/

By Ruth Morgan, SLP

Adaptive Books

Speech-Language goals (in speech therapy)
- Prepositions
- Combining words into phrases
- Formulating Sentences
- Answering questions
- Following directions
- Giving others directions
Door Prize Time
Addressing Language Within the Classroom

Tech Talk
words from the unit in student voices

Word Wall
in a pocket chart

Big Mack Switch

Tech/Scan 8

how are you
friends
ask me a yes-no question
thank you
I am fine
play
do you understand
Let's talk later

fire truck
firefighters
fire
fire hydrant

badge
boots
fire hat
coat

alarm
extinguisher

dog
fire station
Facebook is a good place to ask for gently used donations!
Reading Materials for Thematic Units

Preserve Paperback Books
* Cut off the spine
* Laminate the pages
* Bind the book

FREE Story Prop Pictures at
KiZCLUB
http://www.kizclub.com/stories.htm

Students can color the black and white pictures and glue to popsicle sticks to retell the story.
Reading Materials for Thematic Units

- Cut pictures from a 2nd copy of a book
- Glue to cardstock
- Laminate
- Add velcro

Source for 2nd book: Goodwill stores
Reading Materials for Thematic Units

Story Props

- Sequencing during reading
- Retelling the story
- Comprehension questions after a read aloud
Reading Materials for Thematic Units

Emergent Readers
Create 3 per week
Small group instruction
Sight Words
Math Materials for Thematic Units

Print FREE adapted books, laminate, bind, and use velcro.

Book from http://chapelhillsnippets.blogspot.com/

By Ruth Morgan, SLP

Tray from science kit.
Add velcro strips
Math Materials for Thematic Units

Teach the text for the first week during small group time, going through each page with the students. After the first week, this book can be used as an independent station.

Sight words, number words, number recognition and counting are all in this one book.
Math Materials for Thematic Units

Small thematic objects for counting and making sets during math.

- Dollar Store holiday erasers
- Dollar Store small seasonal items
Science Materials for Thematic Units

Does it SINK or FLOAT?

Pumpkin Life Cycle

What’s inside the pumpkin?
Social Studies Materials for Thematic Units

Johnny Appleseed / History of John Chapman

Rodeo
Learning to lasso with a real cowboy!

Community Helpers
pretending to be a fireman
Social Emotional Learning

Social and emotional learning (SEL) is the process through which children and adults acquire and effectively apply the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to understand and manage emotions, set and achieve positive goals, feel and show empathy for others, establish and maintain positive relationships, and make responsible decisions. **Source of definition & chart: [www.casel.org](http://www.casel.org)**

**Social and Emotional Learning: Core Competencies and Elements**
Social Emotional Materials for Thematic Units

Explicit instruction on appropriate actions and emotional responses.
Social Emotional Materials for Thematic Units
Parent Connections and Support

Technical Assistance Center on Social Emotional Intervention

Backpack Series

Addressing Behaviors

Emotions

Routines and Schedules

Social Skills

Print and send these free 1 page flyers home weekly in student folders!
Daily Living Skills Materials for Thematic Units
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Book</th>
<th>Food</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>Friendship Getting Along with Others Working Together</td>
<td>The Little Red Hen Makes Pizza by Philemon E. Sturgis</td>
<td>Pizza</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>Apples</td>
<td>Up, Up, Up, It's Apple Picking Time by Jody Shapiro</td>
<td>Apple Pies Applesauce Apple Smiles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>Valentine’s Day Appropriate Greetings &amp; Affection</td>
<td>The Day It Rained Hearts by Felicia Bond</td>
<td>Heart Toast Valentine Smore Mix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>Dr. Seuss’s Birthday &amp; Rhyming</td>
<td>All of Dr. Seuss’s books</td>
<td>Cat in the Hat Jello Cups Seussy Snack Mix</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>Earth Day / Recycling</td>
<td>Biscuit’s Earth Day Celebration by Alyssa Capucilli</td>
<td>Earth Day Cookies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Door Prize Time
Fine Motor & Sensory Materials for Thematic Units

Thematic Sensory Tubs

Playdough Cutters
Fine Motor & Sensory Materials for Thematic Units

FREE tracing, cutting, and learning thematic units at [http://ateachingmommy.com/](http://ateachingmommy.com/)

Tear and glue activity
Gross Motor and Movement
Gross Motor and Movement with Thematic Units

Youtube can be your BEST friend for teaching with music AND movement!

Steps for Setting up a Youtube account that organizes your themes for you:

1. Create a google email account
2. Enter your topic in the search bar. Ex: apple life cycle songs
3. Choose a video, then click on the “Add to” button under the video.
4. Click “create a new playlist” and type the title of the file where you want to save the video. Ex. September

Now you can create files based on your general IEP goals. Examples: Counting, Colors, Shapes, ABC’s, Sight Words, Calendar Songs, Money
Gross Motor and Movement with Thematic Units

Favorite YouTube Sources for Learning Songs

- Jack Hartmann - https://www.youtube.com/user/JackHartmann
- The Learning Station - https://www.youtube.com/user/TheLearningStation
- Harry Kindergarten - https://www.youtube.com/user/HarryKindergarten
- Toddler Fun Learning - https://www.youtube.com/user/Toddlerfunlearning
- Dream English Kids - https://www.youtube.com/user/DreamEnglishKids
- Barefoot Books - https://www.youtube.com/user/barefootbooks
- Super Simple Songs - https://www.youtube.com/user/SuperSimpleSongs
- Organic Learning - https://www.youtube.com/user/SuperSimpleSongs
Door Prize Time
Write your favorite theme on an index card. Hold it high and find someone with the same theme.
Once you’ve found a group of people with your theme, do this:

1. Share your favorite activity or lesson you’ve taught with that theme.
2. Write ideas from your group in a few of the blanks on your blank chart.

Johnny Appleseed  Thanksgiving Feast  Groundhog Pancakes
# Unit Theme:

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1. What is the first thing you are going to go back to your school and implement in beginning to build thematic units?

2. How are you going to improve your collaboration with your colleagues using the information you gained from this session?

3. Name at least 1 thing you will implement in the area of low tech or high tech communication based on what you learned today.
FREE Resources

Printable Emergent Readers and MORE

- www.littlekinderwarriors.blogspot.com
- www.hubbardscupboard.org
- www.makinglearningfun.com
- www.playingwithwords365.com
- www.thisreadingmama.com
- www.spelloutloud.com
- www.royalbaloo.com
FREE Resources

- http://mrsminersmonkeybusiness.com
- www.1plus1plus1equals1.com
- www.3dinosaurs.com
- www.candokinders.blogspot.com
- www.pocketfulofcenters.blogspot.com
- www.mrsthompsonstreasurers.com
- http://mommyspeechtherapy.com/
**Self Assessment: Rate yourself using the scale**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>YES</th>
<th>NO</th>
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<td>I leave here better equipped to create well-rounded thematic units than when I entered this session.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I leave here better equipped to collaborate effectively with my Special Ed Teacher or my Speech Language Pathologist.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I leave here feeling like I am better equipped to create low tech materials to aide instruction.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I leave here feeling like I am better equipped to use high tech materials to aide in instruction.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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Door Prize Time
Follow us or contact us!

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sslaughter@jeffcityschools.org

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