

101+ Ideas For Using the BIG Step-by-Step™ and Other Single Message Communication Devices or Other Sequential Message Device to Access Curriculum

- Compiled by Toni Waylor-Bowen, Ph.D. and Jessie Moreau, M.Ed., NBCT; March 2008

Reading Comprehension

- Recite a repeated line in a story/play/poem/speech
- Read from a story, chapter book, newspaper, magazine
- Name the characters in a story
- Sequence events in a story/chapter
- Give important details in a story/chapter / recall facts
- Ask questions (who, what, where, etc) of others about a story/chapter
- Give “stage directions” to others in a play
- Follow the steps in multi-step directions/task analysis (e.g., recipe, simple machine)
- State the logical order of information in a non-fiction text
- Give timeline information about a person in a biography
- Retell familiar events/stories to include beginning, middle, and end
- Name vocabulary words and define terms

Listening/Speaking/Viewing

- Answer questions during calendar/schedule time
- Uses oral language for different purposes: to inform, to request, to entertain
- Recite the Pledge of Allegiance
- Tell others about an event that happened (at home/community/another class)
- Ask questions of others about their evening/weekend/special event
- Ask survey questions of others
- Repeat auditory sequences (letters, words, numbers, rhythmic patterns)
- Present an outline of a group report or class project to others
- Identify people to participate in a group project/play a game/determine “Who’s next?”
- Interview a guest or teacher new to the school
- Sing the chorus of a song or music/video
- Recite Nursery Rhymes
- Recite a poem
- Call items for Bingo games related to curricular themes (especially fun with a randomiser)

Writing

- Sequence items to go into a story
- List adjectives/adverbs to go into a story (especially fun with a randomiser)
- Provide vocabulary to be included in a story
- Give details about different parts of a class story

101+ Ideas

Use a Sequential Message AAC Device to Access the Curriculum

Mathematics/Numbers and Operations

- Count forward
- Count backward
- Count days of the week/month/year
- Count sets of items
- Count using 1-1 correspondence
- Recite prime numbers with visual models for identification
- Skip count
- Recite addition/subtraction/multiplication facts
- State money amounts (by dollars, quarters, dimes, etc.)
- Identify parts of a whole (fractions)
- Identify numerals in expanded notation (9 thousand, 3 hundred, fifty, five)
- Identify and order percents
- Identify and order decimals
- Identify numbers on a number line

Mathematics/Measurement

- State the order of objects based on a dimension (e.g., big/bigger/biggest, long/longer/longest)
- State time (hour/half-hour/quarter-hour)
- Count the increments while measuring (for length, capacity, time, temperature, etc)
- Counts items used in the formula to determine area, capacity
- Give steps in formula for finding volume, surface area, etc.
- Name measurement-related vocabulary words and define terms

Mathematics/Geometry

- Count the number of shapes/solid figures identified in the class, school, community
- Name the various types of geometric shapes when shown the same
- Count the number of sides, edges, vertices, in plane and solid figures
- State the properties of different shapes/solid figures (i.e., a triangle has three sides; a cube has 12 edges)
- Count points on a grid
- Name geometry-related vocabulary words and define terms
- Choose geometric figures then identify them with visual/tactual manipulatives

Mathematics/Data Analysis and Probability

- Count/name the items that are part of the survey
- Count the number of responses/tally marks for each item on a table/chart/graph
- Skip count number of responses when using different scales
- Estimate number of items in a set
- Predict the probability of a given event (i.e., numbers on dice, colours of M&M's) for experimental probability activities (randomiser device works best)

101+ Ideas

Use a Sequential Message AAC Device to Access the Curriculum

Mathematics/Algebra

- State items in a pattern
- Skip count
- State addition/subtraction/multiplication/division rules
- Tell other strategies for solving problems (mnemonic devices)
- Count using ratios/fractions (i.e., $1/3$, $2/3$, $1/4$, $1/2$, $3/4$, 1)
- State formulas for solving problems
- Announce simple equations for students to solve
- Describe simple story problems for students to solve Science
- State science-related vocabulary words and define terms (“A mineral is made from non-living substance found in nature.”; “A rock is made from minerals.”) Describe items being used in the science task (i.e., minerals, rocks, animals, habitats)
- Describe common features between items (i.e., both the tiger and polar bear use camouflage, both the bat and possum are nocturnal) List reasons/outcomes (i.e., pollution is caused by littering, pouring items in streams or rivers...)
- List items (i.e., major organ systems, names of the planets, items that can be recycled...)
- Sequence items (i.e., life cycles, planets in order from the sun, steps in the water cycle)
- Explain steps in an experiment
- Describe changes in items before, during, and after an experiment
- State parts of a whole (i.e., parts of a cell)
- State parts of a group (i.e., animals that are vertebrates, types of habitats)
- Call items for Bingo games related to science standards (especially fun with a randomiser)
- Describe physical attributes of items (i.e., shape, colour, size, hardness, texture)
- Describe characteristics (i.e., habitats, cloud formations, hurricanes, physical/chemical changes)

Social Studies

- List items (individual freedoms on Bill of Rights, original 13 colonies,)
- Sequence items (steps in the producer/consumer cycle)
- State items in first/then and if/then format (“First England wanted to tax, then America wanted independence”)
- List key individuals (presidents, world leaders, Civil Rights personalities, famous Georgians)
- List reasons for an event«Recite lines in a play/music video/skit about subject/time period
- List items/places in governmental jurisdiction (city, state, country)
- List states in regions of the United States
- List countries on different continents in the world
- List cultures (Indian tribes living in Georgia)
- State/list items related to a culture (common words in different languages)
- State social studies-related vocabulary and define terms
- List/describe geographic regions
- List major products of a state, region, country
- Call items for Bingo games related to Social Studies standards (especially fun with a randomiser)
- Sing a song or chorus from a song of a country being studied
- List cultural achievements in the fields of art, music, literature, theatre, movies/TV