

Directions for Mail for Bucks

I am constantly looking for ways to see carryover of learned skills in the classroom and at home. Since most students are not fond of Speech homework, I devised a way to give them “homework” for practice outside of my classroom in a motivating way. This carryover activity is called “*Mail for Bucks*.”

Each student is given a packet of motivating worksheets or activities to do at home or at school during any free time. The worksheets/activities are specific to the articulation and/or language skills they are currently learning and working on. The number of worksheets in each packet is based on the number of weeks they have to complete the worksheets. I chose to give students 20-24 worksheets for a 9-week period, giving them the opportunity to complete about 3 each week on their own time.

I put up a Speech Mailbox outside of my room, and students “mail” me completed worksheets on a weekly basis. Their completed worksheets are tallied up, and they compete against other students, seeing who can complete the most worksheets (or preferably ALL) in the given time period. Students receive 1 “Speech Dollar” (laminated fake money) for every 2 worksheets turned in, and they get to redeem special prizes and rewards at the end of the nine weeks with those Speech Dollars. Students who complete all of their worksheets get a special pizza party at the end of the nine weeks. Parents and teachers received a note explaining this activity at the beginning of the nine weeks (see Text for Parent Letter).