

Exercise Description: Start-Up Stories

Start-Up Stories helps develop listening comprehension skills, organization and focus skills, and English language conventions.

Start-Up Stories consists of three stories and related activities. The first story uses heavily digitally enhanced speech. Once the participant demonstrates proficiency with the tasks that accompany the story, the participant continues on to the second story, which uses less digitally enhanced speech. Once the participant demonstrates proficiency with the tasks that accompany the second story, the participant continues on to the third story, which uses no digital enhancement.

Start-Up Stories helps develop listening comprehension skills by asking the participant questions at the end of each story. The participant answers the questions by clicking a picture that best describes the answer.

Start-Up Stories reinforces English language conventions by having the participant listen to sentences with increasingly difficult grammar and syntax, and then choose the picture that best describes the sentence. Organization and focus is improved by having the participant follow increasingly longer instructions for moving different objects (related to vocabulary in the story) around on a grid.