Irregular Past Tense Verbs in Sentences

Introduction:

Many children have trouble learning how to use irregular past tense verbs. These are verbs that change entirely when you talk about them in the past tense (instead of just adding an “-ed” at the end). For example, the verb “eat” turns to “ate” when we talk about it in the past tense.

In speech therapy, we have children practice those irregular past tense verbs in simple sentences first (like “she ate dinner”). This sentence activity will allow the child to practice changing a present tense sentence into a past tense sentence using irregular past tense verbs.

Instructions:

Read each sentence to the child. Have the child change the present tense verb into the correct past tense form and repeat the sentence back in the past tense. For example, if the sentence is “He runs away”, the child would say “he ran away”.

1. He is here.
2. I bend it.
3. She begins here.
4. I bite the apple.
5. We blow out the candles.
6. They break it.
7. I bring the food.
8. I build a tower.
9. She buys shoes.
10. I catch a butterfly.
11. I cut the paper.
12. I you drink soda.
13. I you eat cookies.
15. I you hear something.
16. I ride my bike.
17. She says her name.
18. We shake hands.
19. I stand up.
20. You sit down.
Irregular Past Tense Verbs in Story Retelling Activities

Introduction:

Many children have trouble learning how to use irregular past tense verbs. These are verbs that change entirely when you talk about them in the past tense (instead of just adding an “-ed” at the end). For example, the verb “eat” turns to “ate” when we talk about it in the past tense.

After the child learns how to use irregular past tense verbs in simple sentences, we want him to begin using irregular past tense verbs in more complex communication.

This story-retelling activity will allow the child an opportunity to practice irregular past tense verbs by immediately repeating a story using the past tense.

Instructions:

Read the following stories aloud to the child. Read one sentence at a time and have the child repeat the sentence back to you in the past tense. (For example, if you say “there is a boy named Brad”, he repeats it back as “there WAS a boy named Brad”) Then, read the whole story to the child and have the child retell the story to you using the correct irregular past tense verbs.

Story One:

There is a boy named Brad. Brad IS very hungry. He finds a big juicy apple. He bites into the apple. In the apple, he sees a worm! He doesn’t like worms so he eats a banana instead.

Story Two:

Sara goes for a walk outside. She picks a dandelion and blows away the petals. Then, she catches a butterfly. Suddenly, she hears a noise. The noise comes from an eagle. The eagle flies down from a tree. The eagle shakes his wings out and goes to sleep. After a few minutes, the eagle wakes up and says “Good morning”.

Story Three:

It is time for Ryan to go to school. Ryan begins his trip to school on his bike. He rides his bike down the hill. Uh oh! He forgets his backpack and has to go back to the house. He runs over a stick in the road. The stick breaks into two pieces. One of the pieces shoots up from the ground and hits him in the face. The stick cuts his cheek. His mom puts a Band-Aid on it when he gets home.