Participation Scripts

WHAT & WHY
Students spend much of their day engaged in class activities that may offer limited opportunities for interactive communication. This is especially true in fast-paced general education classrooms. Social scripts designed for participation offer an opportunity to maximize classroom activities such as studying for a test, giving directions, or engaging in a cooperative activity.

WHO & WHEN
Younger students might use scripts to fulfill Circle Time roles such as song leader story leader, or transition leader. Older students and adults might use work participation scripts, such as "Applying Labels."

WHERE
The CD, Sequenced Social Scripts by Musselwhite & Burkhart (2004) provides more than 40 sample Class and Work participation scripts, in the following categories:

General Participation Scripts:
- Book interview
- Homework
- Poem
- Life cycle of a frog
- Writing conference

Circle Time Scripts: These scripts support students in filling various Circle Time 'roles'
- Weather reporter
- Song leader
- Pattern leader (pumpkin / bat / pumpkin / bat)
- Day of week lister

Line-Up Scripts: The AAC user calls out various categories for line up, such as: 'If your name has 3 beats, line up now.' or 'If your name has 5 letters, line up now.'
- First letter (If your name starts with 'S')
- First sound (If your name starts with /s/)
- Favorite pet (If you like cats best)
- Favorite food (If your favorite food is pizza)

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Sample Participation Scripts:

The following participation scripts were created at Social Scripts workshops conducted by Musselwhite & colleagues. Thanks to all of the participants for sharing!

SOCIAL STUDIES: Heckler for speeches
Closing the Gap, 04

Notes: this should only be used if heckling is an approved practice in the classroom!

- Yo
- Do you really know what you're talking about
- Yeah, right
- Where did you get those goofy shoes?
- Blah, Blah, Blah, Blah
- Wake me up when you're finished.

PHONICS: Rhyming
Closing the Gap, 04

- Hey guys!
- Are you listening?
- We're gong to play a game.
- Can you guess what?
- It's a rhyming game. Let's play.
- What rhymes with cat?
- Good one! What about mat?
- Are you ready?
- This one is harder.
- What rhymes with big?
- Nice job!
- Last one . . . are you ready?
- What rhymes with pig?
- That was great!
- We'll play again tomorrow.
SOCIAL STUDIES: Exchange City – Postal Worker
Closing the Gap, 04

Note: This school had set up an exchange city, with students taking on various roles.

- Next.
- Can I help you?
- Okay, let’s see where it goes.
- I need to weigh it – how much do you think it weighs?
- What have you got in here?
- When do you want it to arrive?
- Do you need anything else today?
- Okay.
- Cash, credit, or debit?
- Do you need a receipt?
- Did you know that you can access postal services online?
- Thanks and have a great day!

SOCIAL STUDIES: Martin Luther King Week
Closing the Gap, 04

- Okay guys.
- Ready to talk about Martin Luther King?
- Who knows why he is so famous?
- I can tell you one reason . . .
- He gave a really famous speech.
- Does anyone know the name of that speech?
- What else do you know about him?
- Come on . . . I can give you a hint.
- He wanted fairness for everyone.
- Okay, let’s write down one more important thing about him.
- He was great, wasn’t he?
- I’m glad we have MLK Day every year.
- Will someone write our names on the paper so we can turn it in?
- Thanks!
MATH: Multiplication Facts (x3)
Closing the Gap, 04

- Say what?
- What are we doing?
- Who knows their 3s?
- Okay, I know one.
- Wanna hear?
- 3 x 3 = 9
- Who's next?
- Are ya sure?
- Way to go!
- I know another one.
- Listen up.
- What's 3 x 9?
- Betcha don't know.
- It's a tricky one!
- Right! It's 27!
- We're the best!

MATH: Math Quiz (joke)
Nancy Hogan

- Think of a number from 1 - 10.
- Remember that number!
- Multiply it by 3.
- Now add 5.
- Take away the number you first thought of.
- Now add 7.
- Subtract 2.
- Add back the number you first thought of.
- Now close your eyes
- <pause . . . . .>
- Keep them closed!
- <pause . . . . .>
- Dark, isn't it??
- Gotcha!
- Let's find someone else to play this trick on!
**MATH FACTS: Multiplication by 3s**

Note: students in class are each given a card w/ products of 3 (3, 6, 9, etc.)

- Hey class!
- Is everybody listening?
- I’m going to call out a number.
- If you have that number, you have to do what I say.
- If you have 3 x 5 . . . jump up and down.
- If you have 3 x 8 . . . stomp your feet.
- If you have 3 x 7 . . . be a chicken.
- If you have 3 x 6 . . . clap your hands.
- <etc, etc. - let AAC user pick fun actions>
- Okay, that’s it for today.
- Way to go, guys!

**SOCIAL STUDIES: Studying for Test on Martin Luther King**

- Listen up! <note - use similar attention-getter before each question. Let AAC user help pick them.>
- Are you ready for the first question?
- In 10 words or less, who was Martin Luther King.
- What do you think guys, was that a good answer?
- Next question . . .
- List three things that Martin Luther King is famous for.
- Okay, gang, are those the three most important things?
- Here’s the last question. . .
- What happened to Martin Luther King?
- Well, is that enough information on that?
- Study hard for the test.
- That’s it.

**SCIENCE: Life Cycle of a Frog**

- Hey guys.
- Guess what!
- We’re going to talk about something cool!
Can you guess?
- Susie brought in something in a jar.
- Know what it is?
- It's eggs.
- Do you know what kind?
- You can't eat them!
- They're not from a chicken.
- Here's a hint.
- Ribbit . . . ribbit!
- The eggs are from a FROG!
- Cool, huh!
- Everybody look at them.
- We get to look every day and see how they change.
- Well, that's all for today.

**PHONICS: Rhyming**

- Hey guys.
- It's time to rhyme!
- Ready?
- Let's go.
- I'll give you a clue.
- You tell me the rhyming word.
- *<Students who use AAC have a set of picture cards>*
- It's an animal.
- It lives on a farm.
- It rhymes with 'big.'
- The word is . . . *pig*.
- Okay, here's the next one.
- Here's the first clue.
- It's something you wear.
- It goes on your foot.
- It rhymes with 'blue.'
- The word is . . . *shoe*.
- *etc. etc.?
- Well, that's enough for today.
LIFE SKILLS: Shredding Paper
Round Rock, TX

- Hey there!
- Here’s some paper that needs shredding.
- I love shredding paper.
- Come on . . . it’s fun!
- It won’t take long.
- Be careful feeding the paper.
- Love that noise!!
- Thanks for helping.
- Let’s do it again sometime.

SCIENCE / LIFE SKILLS: Recycling
Round Rock, TX

- Dude!
- Whaddup?
- Guess what we’re working on?
- I’ll give you a clue.
- It has to do with metal
- I’ll give you another clue.
- It has to do with paper.
- Okay, one more clue.
- It has to do with glass too.
- Should I tell you?
- Our class is doing a cool recycling project!
- Will you bring me all your recyclable stuff?
- Okay, stay cool!
- See ya later.

ANNOUNCEMENT
Round Rock, TX

- Hey, guys.
- Guess what’s happening today.
- There’s an assembly.
- A storyteller’s coming.
- What kind of story do you hope she tells?
- Ohhh, I like those kind of stories.
- Everyone come!
- See you there.