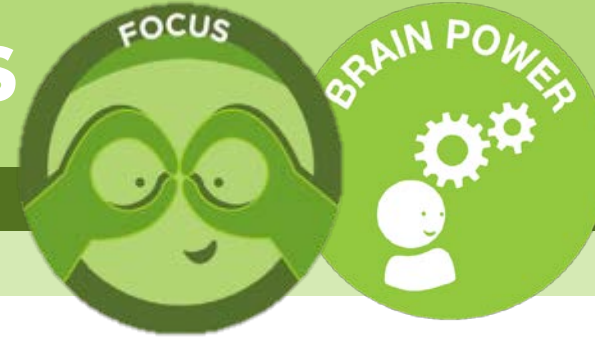


MY HAT HAS 3 CORNERS



ALL GRADES


WHAT IS IT? A game to build executive function skills.

WHAT IS IT ABOUT? Practicing focus and attention.

WHY DO THIS?



MATERIALS

 None required.

THE BIG IDEA

This game is about focusing on specific words and remembering when to use motions instead of words.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Say **THE BIG IDEA**.
2. Say, "Let's practice the words to the chant. It's just two phrases:
My Hat has three corners, three corners has my hat.
If it didn't have three corners, it wouldn't be my hat."
3. Once students have practiced and are familiar with the chant, tell them you are going to replace one of the words. When you get to the word "hat," DON'T say it. Instead, students should point to their heads (*demonstrate motion*).
4. Try the chant again, this time remembering to stay silent on "hat."
5. Next, tell students you are going to add one more hand motion. Now, in addition to pointing instead of saying "hat," when you get to the word "three," DON'T say it. Instead, hold up three fingers (*demonstrate motion*).
6. For the last round, add one more hand motion. When you get to the word "corner," make a corner with your arms and touch your elbows (*demonstrate motion*).
7. Repeat the chant until students can remember to replace key words with motions.

» **MUST DO:** Must require students to listen carefully for specific words.

↪ **CAN ADAPT:** Let kids choose a favorite song. Play classical music and have them listen for a specific sound (e.g., clarinet).



AFTER THE ACTIVITY, DEBRIEF:

- That was a little tricky! Chanting, moving, and positioning is a lot to do. How did your Focus Brain Power help you?
- What else helped you play this game? What could you try differently next time? (e.g., *I said all the words silently in my head to help me do the right motions at the right time, I remembered what words were silent in each verse by picturing them in my mind while we were chanting, etc.*)

TIPS FOR SUCCESS



Translate the chant into the home languages of emergent bilingual learners in your class.



For students who may need additional support, write the chant on chart paper, and draw accompanying pictures, if helpful. Then post it up in the room, so children can see it as you sing.

ADAPTATIONS

- For younger students, spend more time practicing the chant. Remembering those few words can be hard! Or, don't have them memorize it – focus instead on doing the hand motion for one key word at a time.
- When students are ready for a challenge, introduce a new chant and come up with your own replacement movements.