

Webster the Witch

Through reading this story, the student will be listening and responding to sensory stimuli associated with it. They will use their individual communication systems to communicate whether they want more or to finish, taking some control over their environment and engaging with the supporting adult, who will know how the student communicates.

You will need:

- A wig (tinsel ones are used in school and are inexpensive)
- A hand-mirror
- A pot or large bowl
- A packet of rice (*savoury rice is more aromatic, though dry rice can still cater to the senses of smell (to a degree), touch and taste.
- A wooden spoon
- A washing-up brush or similar
- An electronic switch or similar, on which you can record – and the student can activate – a witch's cackle
- A bag to contain all of the above and which the student will explore before the story begins

1. Tell the student(s) that they are going to use:
 - Their ears to listen
 - Their eyes to look
 - Their noses to smell
 - Their hands to feelAdult models pointing to each and supports the student(s) to touch their own.
2. Continue by saying we are going to listen to a story. Show each student their story bag allowing them to feel and smell saying, "*(Student's name), it's story time.*"
3. Support student(s) to feel, touch and smell the story bag as a cue to the activity.
4. Introduce the story, telling the student(s) it is a story about a witch called Webster. Support the student(s) to explore the wig, e.g. by putting it on the adult first before then putting it on the student(s); then looking at themselves in the mirror.
5. Read the story slowly, allowing time for the student(s) to lead the session by giving them time to explore.

The Story

This is a story about a witch,

Who loved her wig, every stitch.

EXPLORE A WIG, PUTTING IT ON THE ADULT AND THEN THE STUDENT.

*She took a mirror of the hook
And admired herself as she took a look.*

EXPLORE THE MIRROR, SUPPORTING THE STUDENT TO LOOK AT THEMSELVES

She made herself known by her awful cackle.

USE A 'SWITCH' WITH A PRE-RECORDED WITCH'S CACKLE

*Webster Witch had the notion,
Of making a brand new happy potion!
She took bits of slime and grease and things and put the lot
Into a really great big pot.*

EXPLORE A POT

She took a spoon

EXPLORE A SPOON

*And very soon
Stirred everything round and round.*

She stirred it fast,

She stirred it slow

EXPLORE SPOON AND POT

She opened a bag of savoury rice.
Oh my goodness, that smelled nice!*

SMELL THE RICE

*Into the pot she put the rice;
Into the pot she put her hands.*

EXPLORE THE RICE

Mixing and mashing round and round,

Sensory Story

All the time making a cackling sound.

STUDENT USES THE SWITCH TO MAKE THE CACKLE SOUND

When at last the potion was done,

Webster felt she had such fun.

Pleased with her efforts, it was time to stop.

Time to wash up with her nice new mop.

EXPLORE DISH MOP AND BOWL

Tell students story time is over; support them to help pack their bags as cue to the end of the session.