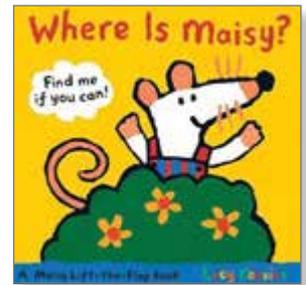**AV techniques and strategies**

- Self-talk to encourage your child to take a turn
- Wait time
- Repeating last item heard

Story of the week: "Where Is Maisy?" by Lucy Counsins.
Wallker Books, London, 1999.

- This is a board book with flaps and provides your child with many opportunities to hear the question, "Where" and look under the flap for Maisy. It also provides an opportunity for your child to use "not" or "no" after looking under a flap and discovering Maisy is not there, and hearing the speech target of /n/ numerous times throughout the book.

Song of the week: "Old MacDonald Had a Farm"
Words: "Old MacDonald had a farm, E-I-E-I-O. And on this farm he had a cow, E-I-E-I-O. With a moo-moo here and a moo-moo there. Here a moo-moo, there a moo-moo, everywhere a moo-moo. Old MacDonald had a farm, E-I-E-I-O.

- Change the animal and the animal sound by replacing the underlined words in the verse and sing new verses for each animal your child knows.

- This song is a lovely song to sing to support your child using known performatives and participating in auditory closure, where you pause and your child fills in the sound of the animal makes. Your child will have many opportunities to produce performatives spontaneously.

- Listen to your child's productions and ensure he is matching the syllable and vowel content for each animal name and sound. He may also include known consonants such as /m/, /b/, /p/, /w/, etc.

- You can teach this song by using toy animals and a farmer to act out the song as you sing. Your child will enjoy playing with the animals while you sing each verse.

- Be sure to add a page to your *Sound Book* to represent this song. A fun way to make the page interactive is to make a barn out of cardboard and cut the door so it opens and closes. Pictures of animals can be kept in an envelope on the facing page and each animal can be put behind the door as you sing its verse.

★ **TIP:** Take your child out for excursions and build language around each one. Pet shop, fruit and vegetable shop, fish markets, botanic gardens, flower shop, machinery shop.

Hear now. And always

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