

# 1.11

## Let's Share our Space!

<b>Focus</b>	Raising awareness of self and others in a given space. Listening and following instructions.
<b>Level</b>	All
<b>Age</b>	Any
<b>Time</b>	10 minutes or more
<b>Preparation</b>	None

### in class

- 1 Tell the students to move to a space of their own. Ask the students to 'freeze'.
- 2 Ask the students to move on the word *Action*, without touching the walls, trying to maintain their share of the space and not bumping into anyone.
- 3 Every now and then call *Freeze!* and ask students to maintain the pose for three seconds. You may count out aloud or use your fingers to show numbers.
- 4 Call out *Action* and they move again trying to be aware of the space.

### Note

Learners will automatically circulate in an anticlockwise direction. Encourage them to be consciously aware of the space, to seek it out purposefully to change direction and walk into a space wherever it appears.

### Variations

Try the same exercise but ask students to run, march, jump, hop, swim, dance, crawl, walk backwards when you signal.

With more advanced students you can revise saunter, slouch, limp, crouch, shuffle, lurch, skulk, stagger, strut, etc.

For each student, to choose any one mode of moving in the space. Ask each student to choose someone in the class who they will try to keep an equal distance from. They must not let them know. When you finish the game, ask the students to touch the chosen one on the elbow.

Ask the students to stop whenever they like and maintain eye contact for three seconds with someone else they happen to meet before continuing. They must do this three times and then sit down and watch the scene as everybody else works. When almost all have finished you can ask the onlookers to say how they felt doing it, then afterwards how they felt watching it.

This last reflective part may be in mother tongue.

# 3.8

## Seven Steps to Spelling

<b>Focus</b>	Developing creativity. Developing cooperation. Using the body, the mind's eye and listening carefully to learn. Vocabulary: Any words you want the students to learn to spell
<b>Level</b>	All
<b>Age</b>	5-12 (or older if in small groups)
<b>Time</b>	10-20 minutes depending on how you develop the activity
<b>Preparation</b>	None

### in class

- 1 Choose a word which causes problems (e.g. *necessary*, *people*), and write it correctly on the board in lower case letters (never use capitals). Ask the class to count out the letters in the word as you point to each. Write the number in brackets at the end of the word.
- 2 Point to the word and repeat the pronunciation five times.
- 3 Say the names of the letters in order and clearly to a rhythm: N, E, C, - E, S, S, - A, R, Y
- 4 Ask students to give the names of the letters in their ordinary voice to a rhythm you impose. Then:
  - in a whisper
  - shouting
  - clapping
  - stepping
  - bouncing a ball
  - waving it out on the floor
  - making a word with the correct number of students, each one or two representing a letter with a body shape
- 5 Ask the class how many syllables are in the word and clap out the number of syllables while saying each syllable. Do this three to five times making sure every student is joining in.

ne-cessary – clap twice
nec-e-ssa-ry – clap four times
- 6 Ask the class to stand up, close their eyes and visualise a huge black/green/whiteboard in front of their body. Ask them to visualise the word in huge neon lights in their favourite colour. Using their pointing finger they should 'write' (airstream) the word in HUGE letters, moving from left to right as they write.
- 7 Clean the board and ask each student to sit down and write their word on their paper. Check by asking the students to hold up their papers or check each other's word or write it up on the board and ask them to check individually.

# 3

## Jack and his Computer

<http://bit.ly/1UvN55p>

*(Adapted by Susan Hillyard from the reader Jack and his Computer by C.J. Moore.)*

### Characters

Narrator(s)  
Jack  
Mum (Margaret)  
Dad (David)  
Sister (Susie)  
Doctor Daniels

### Promps

PC (real or made by the students out of cardboard box)  
Computer table and chair  
Mess for the bedroom floor (clothes, magazines/comics/books/dirty cups/popcorn/biscuits half eaten, empty bottles, etc.)  
A broken watch  
A bed with sheet  
Dream bubble (like a special bubble)  
Robot mask/ box/head  
Doctor's coat/overall and stethoscope/scalpel/doctor's bag  
3 boxes  
Broom, mop, clothes  
Food stuff for boxes  
Labels for Jack's bedroom  
Pan or wooden spoon  
Bucket and rag

### Set

The stage area must be divided into two sections:  
Bedroom layout: table, chair. Bed with sheet and mess all over the floor.  
Doctor's room: with a bed, bench, a chair and gadgets

### script

#### Scene: Jack's Bedroom

Scene opens with Narrator standing with the story book front stage facing Jack with the PC set diagonally at middle stage left or facing the audience as long as Jack's head is visible over the screen.)

**Narrator (s):** The story of Jack and his Computer

Jack loves computers. He has got a new computer in his bedroom. He works at his computer all the time. His Mum gets mad.

**Jack:** (Concentrated totally on the PC, talking to himself and muttering and staring at the screen, moving back and forth.)

**Mum:** (Enters and stands front stage right next to the narrator with a pan or spoon in her hand. She is angry.) Tidy your room Jack.

**Jack:** (Without looking up) Busy.

**Mum:** (Moving towards Jack with a pan or spoon in her hand. She is angry) I said, tidy your room Jack.

**Jack:** (Without looking up) I'm busy.

**Mum:** (Moving closer to Jack and shaking the pan or spoon at him. She is angry) I said, tidy your room Jack. Now!

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## Jack and his Computer

- Jack:** (Without looking up) I'm too busy.
- Narrator(s):** Jack does not tidy his room.
- Mum:** (Tutting in despair and storming out, Taghhhhhh.)
- Narrator(s):** Jack loves computers. He works at his computer all the time. His Dad gets mad.
- Dad:** (Enters and stands front stage right next to the narrator with a bucket and rag in hand. He is angry) Please wash the car, Jack (he holds up the bucket)
- Jack:** (Without looking up) I'm busy.
- Dad:** (Moving towards Jack. He is angry.) I said, please wash the car Jack (he holds up the bucket).
- Jack:** (Without looking up) I'm busy.
- Dad:** (He stands over Jack with the bucket held high. He is angry.) Please wash the car NOW! Jack! (He wiggles the bucket and shakes the rag.)
- Jack:** (Without looking up) I'm busy!
- Narrator(s):** Jack does not wash the car.
- Dad:** (Tutting in despair and storming out, shaking his head) Taghhhhhhhh.
- Narrator(s):** Jack loves computers. He works at his computer all the time. His family gets mad.
- Sister:** (Enters and stands front stage right next to the narrator with a broken watch in her hand. She asks nicely.) Please mend my watch, Jack (she holds up the watch).
- Jack:** (Without looking up) Busy.
- Sister:** (Moving towards Jack. She is angry.) I said, please mend my watch NOW. (She holds up the watch.)
- Jack:** (Without looking up) I'm busy.
- Sister:** (Moving over Jack with the watch held high. She is angry.) Please mend my watch, Jack NOW! (She wiggles the watch in front of his face).
- Jack:** (Ignores the watch and his sister and without looking up) I'm too busy!
- Narrator(s):** Jack does not mend the watch.
- Sister:** (Tutting in despair and storming out, shaking her head and looking sadly at her watch) Taghhhhhhhh.
- Narrator(s):** Jack loves computers. He works at his computer all the time. He doesn't eat his lunch. He doesn't eat his dinner. The sun goes down. It is dark. His family gets mad.
- Mum:** (Enters stage left, stops and looks at her watch.) Jack! Jack! It's late! Go to bed now!
- Narrator(s):** But Jack doesn't go to bed. He works at his computer until midnight. Then he goes to bed and dreams about computers.
- Jack:** (Gets up slowly and goes over to bed. Mimes taking off his clothes and putting on his pyjamas. Yawns, stretches and climbs into bed with a long sigh. He closes his eyes and falls asleep. Silence. Snoring. He begins to fidget and starts muttering the names of computer games. He sits up and stares into an imaginary screen and starts typing on an imaginary PC. He lies down and snores and repeats once more the sitting up mime.)

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## Jack and his Computer

**Narrator(s):** Jack's father goes to wake him up in the morning.

**Dad:** (Enters stage left, stops and looks at his watch) Jack! Jack! It's eight o'clock. (Walking towards Jack and shaking him.)

**Narrator(s):** But Jack doesn't wake up.

**Dad:** Jack! Jack! Wake up! (Still shaking him. Jack sits up with the robot head showing) Oh dear. (Dad turns to stage left and calls) Margaret! Margaret! Come here! (Dad goes back to stare at Jack who is again working on an imaginary PC.)

**Mum:** (Enters stage right, stops and asks) What's the matter?

**Dad:** (Pointing at Jack and stepping back a bit) Look! Look at Jack!

**Mum:** (Walks straight over to Jack's bed and stares at Jack) That's not Jack! That's a robot!

**Dad:** (Holding up his hand) Well, the robot is very useful in the house. Mr Robot, tidy the room. (He indicates with a sweeping motion that the whole room is untidy. He walks to the wing and mimes the three empty boxes.)

**Jack:** (Starts putting things in the first box, then the second, then the third and says repeatedly in a robotic voice) I'm tidying the room, I'm tidying the room. (He continues saying the same phrase while his Mum and Dad, with their arms folded or hands on hips, watch him tidying the room. Jack sets the boxes down front stage left.)

**Mum:** (Goes to the wings and fetches a mop. She hands the mop to the robot) Mr Robot, wash the floor.

**Jack:** (Washes the floor and says repeatedly in a robotic voice) I'm washing the floor, I'm washing the floor. (He continues saying the same phrase while his Mum and Dad, with their arms folded or hands on hips, watch him.)

**Sister:** (Enters stage left, stops and stares, her mouth drops open and she points at the robot.) What's that? What's happening? Oh! I see. (Holding out her watch) Mr Robot, please mend my watch.

**Jack:** (Looks at the watch, mimes mending it and says repeatedly in a robotic voice) I'm mending your watch, I'm mending your watch. (He continues saying the same phrase while his Mum, Dad and Sister, with their arms folded or hands on hips, watch him. He continues miming as the narrator speaks.)

**Narrator(s):** The robot is very clever. He tidies the room. He washes the floor. He mends the watch. The robot works all the time. He works in the house. He washes the car. But he doesn't smile. He doesn't laugh. Jack's family are sad.

**Mum:** (Sighing sadly) Robots are useful, but we love Jack.

**Dad:** Yes. We want Jack back.

**Sister:** Yes. I miss Jack. What can we do?

**Mum:** We have to go to the Doctor. (They all walk off stage and enter the Doctor's Surgery.)

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## Jack and his Computer

### Scene 2: In the Doctor's surgery

**Narrator(s):** They go to the doctor's surgery. (Dad knocks on an imaginary door while the others stand behind him.)

**Doctor:** Yes. Come in how can I help you?

**Mum:** (Praying to the Doctor) Please change the robot.

**Dad:** (Holding up his finger and shaking his head) We don't want this robot.

**Sister:** (Bending forward and begging) Please, Doctor, we want Jack back.

**Doctor:** I will have to operate on the robot! Lie down, please, Mr Robot.

**Narrator(s):** Doctor Daniels operates on Mr. Robot (the doctor mimes operating on the robot) isn't a robot now. He is a boy again. He plays with his computer. But he also works in the house. He helps his family.

**All:** Thank you Doctor! Thank you! Goodbye! (They all exit the surgery and enter the bedroom.)

**Jack:** (Jack starts working on his PC then he starts taking the clothes out of the boxes and starts folding each item and putting it tidily on a desk. He gets the magazines and books and papers out of the box and starts tidying everything. He continues with a big smile on his face and says with a laugh) Yes. I'm busy. I'm very busy!

**Mum:** Robot are useful but we love Jack.

**Dad:** Yes, but we love Jack.

**Sister:** Yes, we love Jack.

**All:** (Holding hands and smiling) Yes. Robots are useful but we all love Jack! (They freeze.)

**Narrator(s):** Jack has worked and played on his computer but he also worked and played with the family.