TEAMWORK AND LISTENING

Activity Pack -- FREE Resource

Ages 5-8 | No Prior Reading Required
Classroom, Library and Home Use

Want the full book adventure pack? Visit learningsmart.au

CONTENTS

WS1 Learning - Listening -- Listening Detective

WS2 Learning - Maths -- Playground Vote Tally

WS3 Learning - Design -- Playground for Everyone Design Lab

WS4 SEL - Feelings -- How It Feels to Be Heard

WS5 SEL - Values -- Making Room for Every Idea

WS6 SEL - Goals -- My Listening Goals

TC Teacher's Companion -- Curriculum, Keys and Discussion

Listening Detective

Have you ever been in a group where everyone talks at once? It gets very noisy -- and nobody really hears anybody. Good listeners help a group get unstuck. Let's find out what good listening looks like.

Activity 1: Listening or Not Listening?

Read each one. Tick the box that fits.

What I Do	Listening	Not Listening
I look at the person who is talking	[ ]	[ ]
I talk over the top of them	[ ]	[ ]
I wait until they finish	[ ]	[ ]
I nod and ask a question about their idea	[ ]	[ ]
I play with something while they talk	[ ]	[ ]
I only think about what I will say next	[ ]	[ ]

Activity 2: Our Talking Object

Some classes use a talking object. Only the person holding it speaks. Everyone else listens. Draw a talking object for your class.

DRAW YOUR TALKING OBJECT HERE:

My talking object is: _____

Our listening rule is:

Think About It

* Why does a group get stuck when everyone talks at once?

* How can you show someone you are really listening, without saying a word?

Playground Vote Tally

When a group has lots of different ideas, counting votes and drawing a graph helps everyone see what people want. Let's count!

Activity 1: Count the Votes

20 children voted for their favourite playground idea. Each | is one vote. Count and write the number.

Playground Idea	Votes	How Many?
Swings	||||||	_____
Monkey bars	||||	_____
Sandpit	|||	_____
Flying fox	|||||	_____
Climbing tower	||	_____

Activity 2: Make a Bar Graph

Colour one square for each vote.

Idea	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Swings							
Monkey bars							
Sandpit							
Flying fox							
Climbing tower							

Most votes: _____ **Fewest votes:** _____ **Votes altogether:** _____

Think About It

* If a playground had room for more than one idea, which ones would you include? Why?

* Is the idea with the most votes always the only one that matters? Why or why not?

Playground for Everyone Design Lab

Designers plan where things go so everyone can enjoy them. A great playground has places to run, places to climb, and quiet places to rest. Ideas can fit together like puzzle pieces. Now it's your turn.

Activity 1: Plan the Pieces

Write or draw one idea for each part of your playground.

Something That Is...	My Idea	Who Will Love It?
Fun		
Challenging		
Relaxing or calm		
For everyone to use		
My best friend's favourite		

Activity 2: Draw Your Playground Map

DRAW YOUR PLAYGROUND HERE:

Label 3 things:

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

Think About It

* Why is shade a good idea over a sandpit for little children?

* How can one playground make lots of different people happy?

How It Feels to Be Heard

Note to students:
This worksheet explores personal feelings. There are no right or wrong answers -- your thoughts are your own. Sharing is always optional. If any question brings up big feelings, please talk with a trusted adult.

Sometimes we have a great idea, but every time we start to speak, someone else is already talking. When someone finally stops and really listens, it can feel wonderful. Feelings can change a lot when someone listens.

Activity 1: Feeling Check-In

Circle the words that show how you feel.

When nobody listens to my idea, I feel:
Sad Cross Quiet Left out Okay Other: _____

When someone really listens to me, I feel:
Happy Proud Calm Brave Important Other: _____

When I listen to a friend's idea, I feel:
Curious Kind Patient Surprised Okay Other: _____

Activity 2: A Time I Was Heard

DRAW A TIME SOMEONE REALLY LISTENED TO YOU:

I felt _____ because _____

Think About It

* How do you think a quiet friend feels when everyone finally listens to their idea?

* What could you do if you feel like no one is listening to you?

Making Room for Every Idea

The best plans make room for everyone's ideas -- not just the loudest one. When we ask people WHY they want something, we often find a way for more than one idea to fit.

Activity 1: Ask Why

Ask three people what they would like for a class treat day, and WHY. Write their answers.

Person	What They Would Like	Why They Want It
1.		
2.		
3.		

Activity 2: My Everyone Wins Plan

Think of something your family or class needs to decide, like a game, a movie or a picnic spot.

We need to decide: _____

Person 1 wants _____ because _____

Person 2 wants _____ because _____

A plan where everyone wins:

Think About It

* Why is a plan often better when every voice is heard?

* Can you think of a time when listening to someone changed the way you thought about something?

My Listening Goals

Here is a challenge: before sharing your idea, ask someone else to share theirs first -- and really listen. Small listening goals, practised every day, help us become leaders who help others succeed too.

Activity 1: My Listening Goals

Write or draw one goal for each time.

Goal Tier	My Goal	How I Will Do It	When I Will Start
THIS WEEK			
THIS TERM			
THIS YEAR			

Activity 2: Listening Challenge Tracker

Colour a star each day you do it.

I did it!	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
I asked someone to share first	*	*	*	*	*
I looked at the person talking	*	*	*	*	*
I waited until they finished	*	*	*	*	*
I asked a question about their idea	*	*	*	*	*
I found a way for everyone to win	*	*	*	*	*

Think About It

* Write your own listening motto in 10 words or fewer.

* If you ran a class sharing circle, what would your two rules be?

Teacher's Companion

No Prior Reading Required
This pack is fully standalone. No book or characters are referenced. Any student can complete these worksheets without prior reading. Suitable for classroom, library, and home learning programmes. This pack is an excerpt of a full book-specific learning pack available with purchase at **learningsmart.au**

Australian Curriculum Alignment

Learning Area	Strand	Year Level	Content Description (summary)
English	Language for Interaction	F-Yr 2	Listen to others, take turns and contribute to group discussions (WS1)
Mathematics	Statistics	Yr 1-2	Collect, record and display data using tally marks and simple graphs (WS2)
Design and Technologies	Design Processes	F-Yr 2	Generate, develop and communicate design ideas through drawing (WS3)
Health and PE	Personal, Social and Community Health	F-Yr 2	Name and describe emotions; practise skills that include others (WS4, WS5)
Gen. Capabilities	Personal and Social Capability	F-Yr 2	Communicate effectively, work together and appreciate others' points of view
Gen. Capabilities	Ethical Understanding	F-Yr 2	Explore fairness and decisions that include everyone (WS5)
Gen. Capabilities	Critical and Creative Thinking	F-Yr 2	Generate ideas and combine them into one plan (WS3, WS5)

16 Key Teamwork and Listening Lessons

#	Lesson
1	Different ideas are not the problem -- the problem is when no one feels heard.
2	When everyone talks at once, nobody is really listening.
3	Listening is not the same as waiting for your turn to talk.
4	Real listening means caring about why someone wants what they want.
5	A talking object helps everyone take turns.
6	When people feel heard, they become more willing to listen too.
7	The loudest idea isn't always the best one.
8	Quieter people often have great ideas -- make space for them.
9	Asking 'Why do you want that?' helps us understand each other.
10	Ideas can fit together like puzzle pieces.
11	A group plan can include more than one person's favourite thing.
12	Disagreeing is okay when we explain our reasons and listen to each other.
13	Good leaders help others succeed too.
14	Trusted grown-ups can help us think a problem through.
15	Listening to other groups matters as much as listening inside our own group.
16	Teamwork motto: Listen first, then build something together.

Answer Keys and Discussion Guidance

WS1 -- Listening or Not Listening? (Answers)
Listening: looking at the person; waiting until they finish; nodding and asking a question. Not listening: talking over them; playing with something; only thinking about what to say next. Discuss the last one: it can look like listening, but your attention is somewhere else.

WS2 -- Count the Votes (Answers)
Swings 6, Monkey bars 4, Sandpit 3, Flying fox 5, Climbing tower 2. Most votes: swings. Fewest votes: climbing tower. Votes altogether: 20.

WS3 -- Design Lab (Guidance)
Accept all designs. Look for different kinds of play (active, challenging, calm) and thinking about others, such as shade for little children, or a favourite thing for a friend.

WS4 -- Sensitivity Note for Educators
Some children may often feel unheard at home or at school. Do NOT require students to share responses aloud. Offer drawing or private writing as an alternative. If a student discloses a concern, follow your school's wellbeing and child safety protocol.

WS5 -- Ask Why (Guidance)
Focus on the 'why' column. Help students notice when two different wishes share the same reason -- that is often where an everyone-wins plan begins.

WS6 -- Listening Challenge Tracker
There are no correct scores. Celebrate every attempt; any day left blank is a chance for a gentle reminder, not correction.

Upsell Note for Educators
This generic pack is based on the Learning Smart book series. The full book-specific learning pack -- which references the characters, story moments, and adventure narrative -- is available with book purchase or subscription at **learningsmart.au**. Book-specific packs significantly increase student engagement and reading motivation.

Differentiation Strategies

Level	Strategy	Example Application
Below Level (support)	Reduce written output; use sentence starters; allow verbal responses; pair with peer.	WS2: count real counters or blocks before tallying. WS4: use feeling faces instead of writing.
On Level (standard)	Complete all activities as written. Use discussion partner for Think About It sections.	Standard completion with class debrief of Think About It questions.
Extension (enrichment)	Run a real class sharing circle and vote; graph the results; present a playground plan to another class.	WS2: survey another class and compare the two graphs. WS3: build a 3D playground model from recycled materials.

7 Discussion Questions

1. What happens in a group when everyone talks at once?
2. What is the difference between listening and waiting for your turn to talk?
3. Have you ever felt like no one was really listening to you? How did that feel?
4. How can we make room for quieter voices in our class?
5. Why is it helpful to ask someone WHY they want something?
6. Can you think of a time when two different ideas fitted together into something better?
7. Why does it matter to listen to other groups, not just our own?

Classroom Display Ideas

Talking Object: A class talking object on display, with the listening rule written beside it.

Class Vote Graph: A class bar graph made from a real vote, using the WS2 method.

Dream Playground Gallery: Students' WS3 maps displayed for a gallery walk -- spot the ideas that fit together.

Puzzle Piece Wall: Each student writes an idea on a puzzle piece; the pieces join into one class picture.

I Felt Heard When... Bunting: Students complete the sentence -- display as classroom bunting.

Listening Challenge Chart: Add a sticker each time someone asks a classmate to share first.

Want the Full Adventure?

This free activity pack is inspired by the **Learning Smart book series** -- everyday adventures about listening, teamwork and growing into a kind, confident leader.

The Full Book-Specific Learning Pack Includes:

* Worksheets tied directly to the book's characters and story moments
* Story-based Think About It questions that deepen reading comprehension
* A Teacher's Companion with book-specific discussion questions
* Access to the full Learning Smart resource library

Available with book purchase or subscription at:

learningsmart.au

Books in the Learning Smart Series

Title	Topic
Belinda and the Great Playground Challenge	Listening and Teamwork
The Treasure Map of Money Mountain	Financial Literacy
Professor Bee's Body Expedition	Human Body and Science
Belinda and James: Beach Smart	Sun and Water Safety
Guardians of the Web	Internet Safety
The Magical ABC Adventures: Letters A-F	Early Literacy and Phonics

learningsmart.au

Discover, Dream, Learn -- One Adventure at a Time

Share this free pack -- every copy that travels is a door to learningsmart.au