



## SUMMER 2016

Setting up a summer program for students is oftentimes a lot of work! Aside from the staffing issues that many school districts and agencies face, the learners qualifying for extended school year services not only need structure, but also fun and engaging activities to motivate them to participate.

School staff members frequently struggle with how to maintain skills of their summer program students without it being a ton of work. They need to plan and teach in the short period of time they have to deliver the services.

Numerous school districts and camps have found a simple solution that has reduced their prep time for summer services, improved their teaching, and highly engaged their students and staff in multisensory instruction.

The new director of the Hartford Autism Regional Program (HARP), Jessica Poludin, planned out her 4-week summer program (Mondays through Thursdays) in a very creative way using the methodology of T.H.E. P.A.C.T.

The first step was **identifying the instructional topics** for each week of the summer program:

### **Week 1: The Great Outdoors**

Field Trip: Silver Lake

### **Week 2: Underwater Adventure**

Field Trip: Echo Center

### **Week 3: Animal Oasis**

Field Trip: Retreat Farm

### **Week 4: Things That Grow**

Field Trip: Wellwood Orchards

The next step was **identifying the consistent activities and lessons** to be used to Learn About, Read About, Write About, and Talk About **ANY of the weekly topics** – regardless of the week. Here is what was planned:

#### **MONDAYS**



Build a Collage

Listen to a Dictionary

Vocabulary BINGO

#### **TUESDAYS**



Listen to a Book

#### **WEDNESDAYS**



Take Field Trip Photos (related to the topic)  
 Write Sentences in Journal Notebook (about the field trip)

## THURSDAYS



Give an Opinion  
 Answer Questions

JULY 2016						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	Learn About • Build a Collage • Listen to Dictionary • Vocabulary BINGO	Read About • Listen to a Book	Write About • Take Field Trip Photos • Write Sentences in Notebook	Talk About • Give an Opinion • Answer Questions	1	2
3	Week 1: The Great Outdoors				8	9
	4	5	6	7		
10	Week 2: Underwater Adventure				15	16
	11	12	13	14		
17	Week 3: Animal Oasis				22	23
	18	19	20	21		
24	Week 4: Things That Grow				29	30
	25	26	27	28		
31						

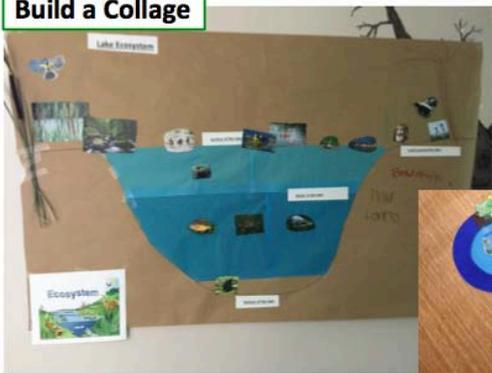
Simple Program Planning Using T.H.E. P.A.C.T.

The staff then **identified the content for each of the four topics** and **created the lessons for each of the topics using the same module activity sets.**

Here are photo examples for each of T.H.E. P.A.C.T. modules:

**Learn About™**      **EXAMPLES**      **Week 2: Underwater Adventure**

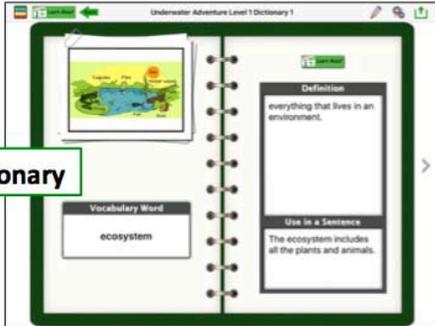
**Build a Collage**



**Vocabulary BINGO**



**Listen to a Dictionary**



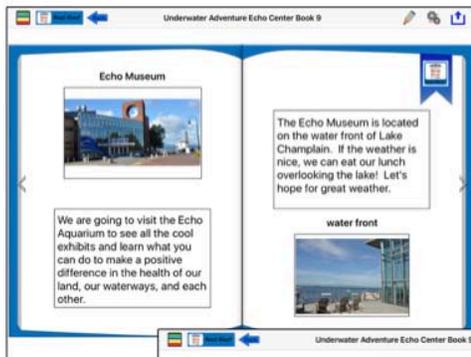
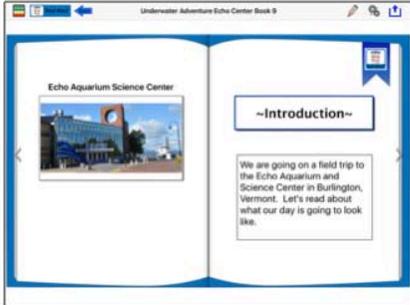
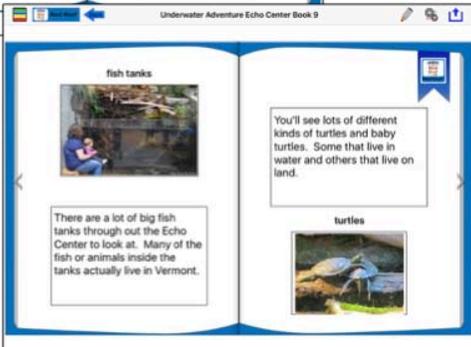
**Vocabulary BINGO**



**Consistent Vocabulary-Building Activities - Regardless of Topic**

**Read About™**      **EXAMPLES**      **Week 2: Underwater Adventure**

**Listen to a Book**

**Consistent Literacy Activities - Regardless of Topic**



Write About™

EXAMPLES

Week 2: Underwater Adventure

Gather Field Trip Photos



Write Sentences in a Journal Notebook



Consistent Writing Activities - Regardless of Topic

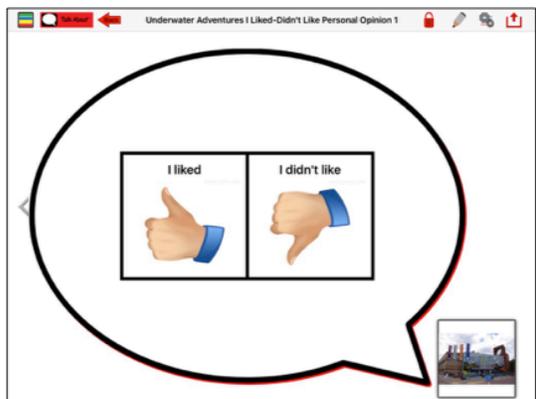


Talk About™

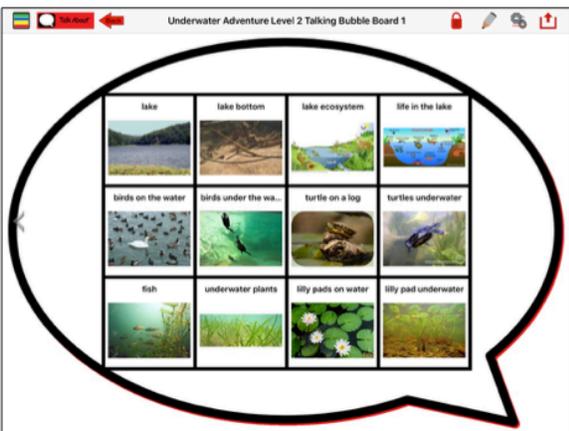
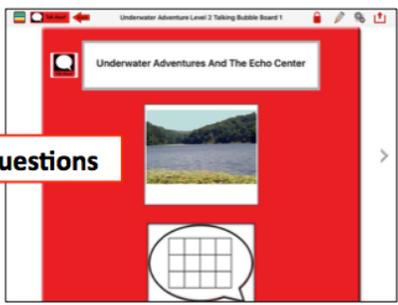
EXAMPLES

Week 2: Underwater Adventure

Give a Personal Opinion



Answer Questions



Consistent Sharing Activities - Regardless of Topic

Each week of the summer program, the staff knew **WHAT** they were doing **EACH** day, **HOW** they were doing it, and **WHAT** materials they were using – regardless of the weekly topic!

**It left no questions.**

The summer program was extremely **organized**, yet also very **creative** and **fun**.

Week after week, these learners were anchored in their instruction and **were successful when focusing on WHAT they were learning, reading, writing, and talking about – not on HOW they were doing it.**

You, too, can implement these principles with this easy formula to teach anything!

Hoping you are having a wonderful summer,  
**Phyl**