

Body Parts

Teaching tips for children with autism

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Use Mr. Potato Head to Teach Body Parts

- Take the table out to signal it's time for therapy.
- Sit diagonally from child so you can prompt or help as needed.
- Use reinforcers like TV, a favorite drink and snacks that appeal to the child.
- Name the body parts as you put together Mr. Potato Head with the child.



Use a Magnadoodle (or a Piece of Paper) to Teach Body Parts

- Draw body parts one at a time.
- While you draw the body parts, say each body part name three times.
- Encourage child to request (by pointing to his own body part or saying the body part) before you draw each one.

Use Video Modeling

- Video Modeling is a technique that works very well with some children.
- For teaching body parts – make a video of the body parts you want the child to work.
- Being silly and goofy translates very well for video modeling.
- Name each body part as you point to it.
- Record yourself singing Head, Shoulders, Knees and Toes in a slow and animated way.
- The power of video modeling is amazing – it helped one child I worked with go from saying 10 words in two hours, to saying 100 words in two hours, after only two weeks of watching the videos!



Looking for more?

Learn to increase talking and decrease tantrums with this [free 10-minute digital assessment](#) today.



“The biggest thing I learned from Dr. Barbera is that I really understand my kids, and I have the tools and knowledge to help both of them lead their best lives!”

-Marie, autism mom

