

**Describes Main Idea in a Listening Experience**

**A. Short Stories**

**Procedure:** Read a short story to the child. His/her task is to state the main idea that the author is trying to convey through the characters in the story. Two stories are presented.

**Story I**

Alan was the fastest runner in the school. Whenever he won a race, he would laugh at the children who raced against him. All of the children hoped that someone would come along who could run faster than Alan.

A boy named Carlos moved into the neighborhood last week. He had won many races at his old school and felt that he could beat Alan.

Carlos challenged Alan to a race. Alan laughed at Carlos and said, "You'll never beat me." Alan invited all his classmates to the park to watch him race.

Many boys and girls came to the park to watch. As Alan and Carlos ran around the track, all the children cheered for Carlos. Carlos crossed the finish line first. He was the new champion!

Everyone laughed at Alan when he lost the race because they wanted to teach him a lesson. All the boys and girls were happy that Alan had finally lost.

Suddenly, Alan understood what it felt like to be laughed at. He never laughed at anyone ever again.

**Skill 4.8**

**Describes Causes for Problem Situations**

**A. Problems Represented in Pictures**

**Materials:** Action pictures showing people and/or animals faced with various problem situations.

**Procedure:** The child is asked to suggest a possible cause for the problem presented in the picture.

**B. Why Did This Happen?**

**Procedure:** Describe a problem situation to the child. Ask him/her to talk about possible causes.

1. Charlie goes into the kitchen and sees a puddle of water under the sink.
2. Mary arrives at school late and there is nobody in the classroom.
3. The dog across the street starts to bark loudly.
4. Sue cannot unlock the front door.
5. Norma goes into the kitchen and finds that the refrigerator door is not closed.
6. Dorothy waits for the bus but it does not come.
7. Chris cannot find his lunch at school.
8. Sean's brother comes into the house with a big hole in his shirt.
9. Nathan reaches into his desk to get his pencil but it is not there.
10. Linda finds a tennis ball in her bed late at night.
11. Colleen burns her pizza in the oven.
12. Tom comes home from school and finds that his bike has a flat tire.