

Water Balloon Experience Story

In a classroom, Linda Hagood sits at a work table with Zane. As the video begins, a title appears, Conversation Before Activity. Together they explore a water balloon, which rests inside a plastic bin. Zane pats it with his hand.

Look it there. Look it there.

Toy.

It's a balloon.

Linda lifts the balloon and lightly drops it so it bounces.

Zane finds it with his left hand and pats it.

We're going to make some water balloons.

A deflated balloon.

There's some more? Yeah? There's one that's not blown up yet. We could blow them. Oh, I know.

Zane covers his ears.

I'm not going to let it pop.

He cautiously reaches out--

I'm going to do this. Look.

--then plugs his ears again. Linda lets the air out.

Look at this. It's gone.

She sets the flat balloon in Zane's reach. He finds other balloons in the bin.

Yeah. Kelsey, can you blow one up for him?

Yeah. Want me to blow one up, Zane?

Mm.

It's OK.

She's going to blow one up. She won't let it pop, will you?

Kelsey, a classmate, blows into the balloon and inflates it just a little.

I'm going to show him, OK? I'm going to help him watch.

Later--

Look.

We're going to put water--

--she signs a W--

--water in the balloons.

--into Zane's hand. Forming Zane's hand into a W, Linda touches it--

Water.

--to his lips. Linda then holds Zane's hands--

This is a balloon.

--as she makes the sign for balloon, a round shape--

It's a balloon.

--coming away from her mouth.

You try it.

Zane turns the balloon sign into more.

More.

More? Yeah, like we did last week. Balloon.

OK, so you ready? Let's carry it over there.

Linda and Kelsey encourage Zane to carry the bin of balloons.

Mm-hm.

Zane wears a serious expression--

Can you pick this up?

--and keeps his eyes closed. He lets the bin tip forward--

[ZANE VOCALIZING]

--and Linda helps.

He's carrying it.

Good job.

And we can kind of guide him with it, Kelsey, like this. Here you come, I'll show you.

Kelsey studies the bin--

Just you guide it and let him carry it.

--as Zane walks forward. A title, Making Water Balloons.

Here it comes.

Now Zane fills a balloon from a faucet.

Hold.

The rubber stretches heavily as it fills with water. Zane squeezes the round bulb of the balloon.

Thank you.

Linda places her hand under Zane's and shuts the water off.

Now we're going to take this off.

Reaching around Zane, she knots the balloon.

OK.

The balloon--

Whoa.

--flops around in the sink.

There it is. Look.

[GASPS]

That's cool. Good job.

Zane rests his head in his arms and slaps at the balloon.

And I want to get a picture of him putting it in the bin.

Yeah, that would be good.

Zane, can you pick this up and put it in the box?

It's going to take him two hands.

Water jostles inside--

I think he's still exploring--

--the balloon.

--it a little bit.

[HUMMING]

[INAUDIBLE] We're pat, pat, patting. Look, it's bouncy. He's still figuring out that it's not going to make a big noise. He's experimenting with it.

Zane hits harder with a flat palm--

He's a little scientist.

--then knocks it with a fist. Linda--

Out it comes.

--slowly raises the balloon out of Zane's grasp--

Ch ch ch ch ch ch ch ch ch ch ch ch ch ch.

--and places it in a bin with two other filled balloons.

Here it is. You want to put it up here? Here, look, look, look. OK, I think we need to get Lucy over here to make a balloon? Do you want to do this with him--

A little later--

--and I'll take a picture? OK, you try that. You do it with him. And remember, put your hands under his hands when you're working with him.

Zane, we're going to put the balloon on the faucet, OK?

Bring your hands up here.

Terrific. That's great language, Kelsey.

Let's bring your hands up here on the faucet.

I'm gonna move this.

As Kelsey--

There it is. Don't take it off.

--works the balloon over the faucet--

--Zane waits.

OK. Hold it up there.

OK. Under his hand. Now try that again, but go under his hand.

Whoa. [INAUDIBLE]

It's OK. It's hard to get used to. He's patient. He's waiting for you, because he likes and he trusts you.

Zane lets his hands fall away from Kelsey's.

Let's-- look, hold the balloon on. Now let's turn on the water.

[HUMMING]

Look at this. Whoa.

Making a balloon with Kelsey.

Oh! Somebody's in there.

Zane--

[INAUDIBLE]

-- holds the water balloon with one hand--

Let's turn it off.

--and feels Kelsey tie a knot--

Turn it off.

--with the other.

Good job.

[INAUDIBLE]

Zane pats Kelsey's hand as she ties.

Then we pull it now. See how I'm tying it?

Look at you [INAUDIBLE] with Kelsey. I think you're his best friend. [INAUDIBLE]

Later, Kelsey guides Zane's hands to the balloon bin.

Sheesh!

Can you pick up the balloon now? Can you get the balloon up, pick it up? There it is!

Let him know where this is by [INAUDIBLE].

Later still, Zane and an older boy, Aiden, prepare their activity.

Good job.

I got my balloons thing.

Yeah. Our balloons.

Our balloons.

OK, let's go. That's perfect, Aiden. Look at you.

Thanks.

Zane holds onto the bin Aiden carries.

He has four.

You are helping him find his way out.

How are you going to show him?

Outside--

Well, we can show him to the--

Do you know that he cannot see that? Look. He's got to hang onto your hand.

Oh, right.

OK?

Zane, see that thing right there?

Aiden points.

See, but he can't see your finger, because he can't see. So we're going to try this. We're going to-- let's show him.

Want me to--

Let's do this.

--show you what we're going to do?

It takes two of us.

All right, sure.

Look.

We show him where we point.

When you put it on the ground, you can go like this. Zane, it's down on the ground. Look.

There it goes. Down, down, down, down, down.

Let's bend over.

Linda guides Zane--

Let's bend over.

--and the bin--

Perfect.

--down to the sidewalk.

I'm going to give this camera to Miss Shannon.

Zane, it's down here. Can you bend over? To the balloons?

Can you get that, Zane?

Let's--

Can you?

Yeah.

--bend over.

It'll take [INAUDIBLE].

See, there they are.

That's where the balloons went.

Can I give it a try?

You can give it a try. You show him what you do. Hang on. He's got to find it with his hands.

Zane.

This is what he uses for his eyes. OK, there you go. All right, now we're going to come over here.

Mm, [INAUDIBLE].

And how do you want to break it? Did you say fork?

Yeah.

OK, get the fork.

All right.

You're going to show Zane that you've got the fork.

Zane, can you stab with the fork?

Aiden holds out a fork for Zane.

Here we go. We can do it together.

[INAUDIBLE]

A title appears--

I think we can do it together.

--Breaking Balloons Outside.

Let's put it over here by the tree. OK.

Get ready!

We're going to get down--

Linda walks behind Zane, encircling--

--because I don't want to get stabbed with the fork.

--him with her arms.

OK, I'll hold it with my foot.

Zane holds onto the balloon and the fork.

Here we go. Now let's see if Zane can follow your hand down. Oh, you're doing so good with him, Aiden.

Thanks.

Don't forget him.

Can you get that?

Aiden and Zane--

Get ready.

--bring the fork to the balloon.

The hand.

Keep trying, Zane.

Try again.

Zane straightens.

He doesn't know where the balloon is. Here we go. You can do that.

The balloon is right here, Zane.

[INAUDIBLE]

The balloon--

I'm pointing it out.

Here we go. It's going to be wet. He knows it's going to break. He's a little scared. OK.

Zane pulls away, scowling.

This is what's going to happen.

Oh, well.

You go down there and break it.

Oh, well.

And I'm going to move.

OK, well, I don't know what to tell you.

OK, go ahead, poke it really hard. Poke-- woo! Ah, you did it!

It makes a puddle around their shoes.

We did it together! My foot and your fork.

This is Lucy's turn. She's going to pick one. I think she want-- yes, I think that's the one she wanted. You said purple, didn't you, Lucy?

Lucy is a middle schooler.

Or did you change your mind to pink?

She sits in a wheelchair.

Oops.

Touch the one you want.

Lucy touches pink.

[HUMMING]

Can you say pink?

Pink.

Pink. OK, here we go. Put it on her lap.

Aiden puts the empty bin on--

Here is your--

--Lucy's lap, and Linda brings the balloon--

--fork.

--and fork. And here-- I'm going to show you, Zane, what's happening here. It's her turn! I'm sorry, but she gets a turn, too. Here we go. We're going to poke, poke.

Get ready.

Can you help her, Kelsey, poke it?

Yeah. I can hold it.

OK, you hold it and help her poke.

Get ready.

OK, Zane, it's not going to be loud.

Ready?

It's just going to be wet. Look. Look what's happening. Lucy and Kelsey, they're poking it together.

We're poking it.

It's hard. It's very hard. You have to pinch a little, too. That's a very tough balloon.

We got close.

What are we going to do? Ah!

It splashes Lucy.

Ooh!

Lucy, I'm so sorry!

Good splashing!

Oh, no! Oh, no! Are you OK?

Linda wipes Lucy's grinning face.

Oh, I'm so sorry. what a surprise!

It was a surprise. I hope that Kelsey got a picture.

It's over here.

They try to pop--

We're going to bend over.

--another balloon using Lucy's wheels.

[INAUDIBLE]

See, it's right there by the wheel.

Yeah, by this part , Lucy.

OK, now what we need is-- Kelsey or Aiden, can one of you guys push the wheelchair over this?

Sure, go ahead, Kelsey, give it a try.

You can be the manager, Aiden.

The balloon bends around the chair wheel--

It's going to pop.

--which rolls right over it.

[INAUDIBLE]

Oh, look! Oh, my gosh. We're going to have to pinch it. Ah!

Wow! That's a good splashing.

Well, this one, what else could we do?

We could throw it in a tree!

Aiden

Throw it in a tree?

Yeah, I could give it a try.

Give it a try.

Aiden makes a hook shot--

Throw it at the tree. That's the tree!

--into a bare tree.

1, 2, 3.

Woo!

Oh, that was perfect! You want to throw one, Kelsey?

Sure. [INAUDIBLE]

OK, watch, let show Zane what you're doing. Zane, this one, she's going to throw it and it's going to hit the tree way over here.

Linda brings Zane--

Listen.

--to the target tree.

Let's listen.

Kelsey's throw misses.

Ah.

Oh! My gosh.

Oh, my goodness!

Let me show Zane where the pieces went.

Holding Zane's wrist, Linda hunts for balloon pieces.

Ch-ch-ch-ch-ch-ch-ch. Here we go. Down, down, down it goes.

They bend to the ground.

Look. It's OK. It's this. It broke.

Yeah, it did!

The balloon broke.

She signs it.

Yeah, no good.

It's gone.

No good at all, right, Kelsey?

No.

Yep.

There you go.

Zane holds the torn rubber.

It's finished. The balloon is broken.

Yeah, and then we'll have to get--

I'm going to help him take this piece over--

--Happy Birthday balloon [INAUDIBLE].

--to-- Kelsey, can you help him take this piece over--

Yeah.

--to the trash.

[INAUDIBLE]

Let's take it to the garbage.

Don't let him put it in his mouth.

Hold it. Hold it. Don't put it in your mouth.

They return to the building and find a trash can.

OK.

Want me to get that?

OK.

Can you put that in the garbage?

Oops.

Really nice, Kelsey!

Good job.

What a great team.

A title, Sharing Activity with Class During Weekly Class Time. Inside, Linda and Lucy set up an iPad.

[INTERPOSING VOICES]

Can you tell them again because I don't think everybody--

We put water in the balloons.

Zane put water in these balloons. So let me let him show people, OK, Lucy?

Zane has the bin of balloons.

This is what we wanted to share. We made some water balloons.

The class sits at tables in a U shape.

What?

Here we go. Here we go Axel, she's making a video. Is that OK with you?

Mm-hmm.

OK. [CHUCKLES] OK, so you want to feel one of those?

As Zane passes the bin around--

You want to pick it up?

--students explore the balloons.

Yep.

Yeah, look, Axel's looking. You have something to say about the balloon?

It feels soft and heavy.

Yeah, it's soft and heavy.

Hey! Hey, Zane, don't bang it.

Zane covers his ears.

Yeah, you're going to pop it out.

[CHUCKLES] It could pop.

The water is [INAUDIBLE].

We had a that experience. It's OK. He thinks you're mad at him. Tell him it's OK.

Not yet, Lucy. Don't play with it.

Yeah.

But that's OK.

Yeah. Here comes Bradley. Bradley, can you reach over and let him know that you're here? OK, now he's going to show you one. Bradley wants to see a balloon. Now, just reach in there and touch it, Bradley.

Which one do you like the best?

Black one.

A black balloon? This is the one he likes. Do you want to feel it? It's not going to break.

Bradley puts out his hand, then withdraws.

That's you talking about her, remember?

Yeah. Yeah, that's mean.

Here comes Paul. Paul, reach your hand out and let Zane know you're here. There you go.

Zane bounces the purple balloon.

What is he doing?

He's just-- he's looking at it. That's how he looks at things, with his hands. He's thinking, this is a cool, bouncy balloon. There you go. Would you like to say something about making the balloons with Zane?

Well, I'm going to say was-- see that green thing, Zane?

Uh-huh.

Right?

Right, Zane's trying to get away for some reason. OK, I'm listening.

See this?

Uh-huh.

See this thing?

I do, but Zane cannot see it. He can only see with his hands.

Here. He can see better.

OK, there you go.

See.

See, Zane, he's talking to you about it now.

Yeah, you put the-- do you put the-- you water-- Zane, do you put the water over the green?

No, we put the water in the green balloon, and who broke them? What was your favorite way of--

Me, and I did too. And that this part right there, and she did but, go over this part too.

Kelsey broke one, too?

Yeah.

You broke one and Kelsey. And how did you break yours?

Oh, the wet balloon with water.

How did you break it? You--

You throw it on the tree and it goes splash. And it got thrown in the grass. Then big is doing no good.

Yeah, and what happened to Lucy? Do you remember?

Linda activates Lucy's speech app on her iPad.

What?

Lucy got surprised.

Let's find the surprise. And Lucy can tell you guys about her surprise.

Yeah.

A slide shows Lucy's turn.

And Lucy, touch this one and make it talk. Tell people what happened to you. That's it.

Lucy poked the balloon and it exploded.

It exploded. Listen.

Say splat.

[GIGGLES] Splat! She was surprised. It got her wet all over. Did you like making balloons?

Aiden raises his hand.

Yeah, she got surprised, but she still liked it. Any questions?

So Zane.

Zane, he's talking to you.

Do you like popping them balloons with water in them?

Zane grins as Linda signs, yes, with him.

Say, yes. Yes, we did. We liked it. The rest of you have any questions? Axel? Yes.

Did loud makes pop exploded?

It didn't make a loud noise, but is sure did make us wet.

Zane squirms.

But we had [INAUDIBLE]

OK, I think Zane is telling us he's finished. Are you done, Mr. Zane? OK, we're going to put these away now. Thank you guys very much for your attention.

[APPLAUSE]

Nice job. Very good, Zane.