LESSON 13:
SENSING HOW THE TIME FILLS UP FOR FAMILIAR TASKS

Background

In this lesson, you will practice visualizing how time usually fills up with the small subtasks or movements involved in carrying out highly familiar tasks. For example, before you see the doctor for a routine yearly check-up, you can anticipate in advance that you will do the following: check in with the receptionist; wait in the waiting room; walk to the exam room and first meet with the nurse; then finally meet with the doctor. Afterward, you may meet with the nurse again for any follow-up and with the receptionist to schedule your next appointment.

Each of these smaller steps involves movement through *space*—in this case, through different physical spaces within the doctor's office—and *time,* which you can anticipate and track on an analog clock.

When you practice planning your time using an analog clock, you will progress from the planned start time toward the end time of a task by moving your marker in a semicircle along the circumference of the clock to help you pre-feel the sweep of time. In other words, for a 45-minute increment of time beginning at 4:00, you would do the following:

- draw a line from the center of the clock along the minute hand out to the "12,"

- then draw a line around the circumference/outer edge of the clock from 4:00 to 4:45 (from the "12" to the "9"), picturing each step of the task or several tasks to be completed along the way,

- then draw another line inward toward the center of the clock, and finally

- shade in that outlined wedge of time.

Directions

DONE (the goal)

Learning to see and feel the subtasks and the movement of time involved in typical daily activities will help you to more accurately predict how long your activities will take and to be aware of potential glitches.

DO (the steps you will take)

- For each scenario, look at the clock image showing the hours and minutes at which the task will start (directly to the right of that scenario). If you are using a Working Clock, turn the clock hands to match that start time.

- Think about the subtasks or smaller steps involved in carrying out that task.

- Mark and shade in the expected volume of time for each step involved in the task until you have anticipated the full duration of the task.

- Lastly, label the volumes of time you have shaded on the clock.

Example:

Morning classroom routine:

1. This activity starts at 8:30

2. Subtasks:

- 5 minutes to hang up coat and backpack and take out folder

- 5 minutes to turn in homework, get morning work assignment and pencil

- 10 minutes to complete morning work

- 5 minutes to turn in work and clear desk for the next class

Tips: When shading the time, be sure to consider any factors that will impact the volume of time; for example, the time of day. The drive to school may take longer in the morning than in the middle of the day, and you can anticipate extra traffic as many students are being dropped off at school at the same time. For some tasks, consider the time needed to Get Ready or Get Done; for example, changing clothes and gathering materials to prepare for an after-school practice, cleaning up after completing an art project, or submitting your completed homework online.

GET READY (the materials you will need)

- A copy of the Sensing Time Scenarios

- Working Clock or write-on/wipe-off clock image (if you will be using a clock image other than the smaller images provided with the scenarios)

- Dry-erase marker (for a Working Clock or write on/wipe-off clock image)

- Pen or pencil (for the smaller clock images provided)

Activity: Sensing Time Scenarios

It is 6:45 p.m., and Allison is packing up the items needed to go to a sleepover at a friend's house. She needs to pack pajamas, a sleeping bag, and some toiletries.

Harun's mom needs help getting dinner ready. It is 5:45 p.m., and Harun needs to set the table for the family. He needs to pour water for six people and to place the condiments on the table.

Emily is working on a science lab project at school. It is 1:10 p.m. She needs to make a list of the 10 materials used in the lab and label the parts of the microscope.

It is 9:05 on Saturday morning, and Ben's room needs to be cleaned. This includes changing the bed sheets, bringing dirty clothes to the laundry room, and taking out the trash.

Courtney is house – and pet-sitting for a neighbor. It is Thursday at 4:00 p.m. She needs to take the dog for a short walk, water four plants, and then put out food for the cats and the dog.

Yasemin is making a poster for her biology class. She has already found eight pictures online, but she still needs to print them. She then needs to glue on the pictures and add a title and captions to the poster. It is 3:30 p.m.

It is 11:00 a.m. and Jin wants to rake the small front yard of a neighbor's house to earn some money. Consider what Jin needs to do to Get Ready to rake and Get Done to close out this task.

It is 9:05 a.m. when Aisha starts filling out a chart on an ELA worksheet for a book the class is reading. She needs to find and write out four quotes.

Elle and family are going out to eat breakfast on Sunday morning. They get to the restaurant at 8:00 a.m. How will their time fill up there?

Selena has a routine dentist's appointment today at 10:00 a.m. They are going to clean her teeth and take X-rays. How do you predict the time will fill up?

Alexi is making a diorama about a book. He wants to complete the first two steps of the diorama today. He starts painting the outside of the box at 6:00 p.m. Next, he will need to decorate the inside of the entire box with construction paper.

Lyla is at a birthday party at Bowling World. Lyla and friends have been bowling for the past hour, and now they are going to eat and celebrate with birthday cake and presents. It is 4:30 p.m. Their parents are picking them up at 5:15 p.m. How will the time fill up?

Carlotta and her mom just got to the frozen yogurt shop with the rest of her soccer team. They are having a "celebration yogurt" after winning tonight's game. It is 7:30 p.m. They need to leave by 8:00 p.m. How will the time fill up?

Andrea's mom drops her off at school on Saturday at 10:00 a.m. to finish a group poster project. Her mom will pick her up at 10:50 a.m. The group needs to arrange and glue their images and pre-printed titles and captions to the poster board to finalize the project.

It is 5:45 p.m., and Carter has just arrived at the local Italian restaurant. Carter is going to order two pepperoni pizzas and a chicken parmesan meal to go. How will the time fill up?

Toby needs to look up the definitions for 15 science terms and then draw pictures for five of these terms. It is 1:30 p.m. How will the time fill up?

Miquel and his friend are doing research in the classroom for a group project. They need to find four facts about the culture of their assigned country and create a slideshow with four slides. It is 10:00 a.m. How will the time fill up?

Danny and Mateo are going to the movie theater on opening night for a popular new movie. They are dropped off at the theater at 7:30 p.m. They need to wait in line to buy snacks and have their tickets scanned, then get to their seats to watch trailers before the movie starts at 8:00 p.m. How will the time fill up?

Twins Liam and Tanya go to the store with their mom. They park the car at 11:00 a.m. They need to buy poster boards, some glue, and a few snacks for a school field trip tomorrow. How will the time fill up?

Sofia is making a volcano for a science experiment. It is 4:30 p.m. She needs to mix the dough ingredients and then shape the dough to look like a mountain. While the dough dries, she needs to gather all the ingredients which will be mixed at school tomorrow to make the eruption. Finally, she needs to paint the volcano.

James is going to the beach with friends. He needs to find a beach towel and sunscreen and pack his swimsuit, flip-flops, and a change of clothes. He then needs to make a bag of snacks to bring with him. It is 11:00 a.m., and his friends will arrive to pick him up at 11:25. How will the time fill up?