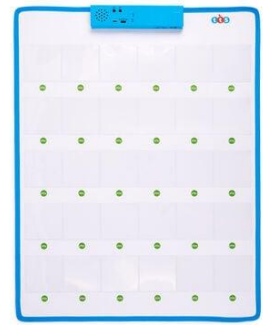


## Activity Ideas: *Interactive Talking Mat* AV46703



*With 30 recordable pockets and featuring two headphone sockets this auditory and visual mat is ideal for supporting learning with groups or individually. There are many ways you will find for using the Interactive Talking Mat, here are some of our suggestions to get you started. We hope you enjoy them.*

### *Creating an inclusive environment*

Visual and auditory aids can assist with different ways of learning. Utilise the image/word pockets along with the recordable function to make learning more accessible to all learners. The Interactive Talking Mat can help to provide a positive communication environment where speaking and listening are encouraged and nurtured. The mat features two headphone sockets ideal for shared support and to reduce distractions.

### *Supporting phonics and reading words*

Use with letter sounds/words displayed in the pockets to support learning phonemes or encourage reading words. Can be used as part of an interactive display or working wall to reinforce daily learning of sounds/words learnt or use on the table for group phonic sessions to practise pronunciation of sounds. Enjoy fun activities together, such as a 'sound hunt'.

### *Enhancing Storytelling*

Photos could be displayed in the pockets to talk about what's in the picture. The mat could be used as a storyboard to support children to tell stories and build up ideas. Children could pick the characters, setting, problem, events and resolution and use their imaginations to tell different stories.

## *Supporting writing*

The mat could be used with objects or pictures to support sentence construction, build ideas and provide a plan for writing. The recorded sentences could be played back as many times as necessary to help pupils to write their sentences down and remember what they wanted to say.

## *Encouraging reading*

Display in the reading corner with front covers of reading books in the pockets. Children can record short reviews of books they recommend, encouraging reading for pleasure. Or reading questions could be recorded for pupils to support book talk.

## *Using the Interactive Talking mat in Maths*

Use with shapes to name and describe shape properties or use with numbers to support calculations. For example, record times table facts and in each pocket show the multiplication sentence. Challenge the children to think of the answer before they press the button to check if they were right.

## *Using the Interactive Talking mat to learn languages*

Use to build up vocabulary when learning a new language. Pictures of the items can be displayed in the pockets with the written word, and the word can be recorded onto the device. The children can replay the word as many times as needed to get the pronunciation right and the word could also be used in a sentence to practise fluency.

## *Using the Interactive Talking mat for topics*

Engage with new vocabulary in a hands-on multi-sensory way to learn subject specific words. Facts about a topic can also be shared on the mat and questions could be asked to encourage research. The mat could be used as part of an interactive display or working wall or used for assessment or quizzes at the end of a topic or lesson.

## Getting to know you

Use the Interactive Talking Mat to introduce everyone in class. Photos of each person could be displayed in the pockets. Press the buttons to hear each person's name and something about them. Great for the start of a new school year. Equally a new pupil could use the mat to help to get to know everyone or pupils could benefit during transitions to learn the names of all the teachers.

## Expressing views and feelings

Help all pupils to have a voice and use the mat to capture choices, preferences and views. Perfect for encouraging discussions, modelling language, and helping individuals to express their feelings and opinions.

## Rewards and achievements

Use the mat to celebrate children's achievements. A picture of the child or a description of the work being celebrated could be displayed in the pockets and a comment about the achievement can be recorded for everyone to listen to.

*Also available are the interactive Talking Mat Content Cards AV48257 that are designed to fit into the pockets. The set covers a range of topics, food & drink, animals, flags of the world, home & school, transport and family & feelings. The cards can be used in a number of ways, and you can also create your own.*

