# OCALI Teaching Diverse Learners Center | Tips and Strategies

## Switch Activated Spinner Ideas

* Replace physical manipulatives like dice or cards
* Select a classmate to be a helper, line up next, etc.
* “Tell about...” story prompts (setting, characters, event, beginning, ending, climax, etc.)
* Word onset sound “word that begins with the \_\_\_ sound…”
* Select or call out a number or quantity related to an activity “How many hops, steps, turns…in our obstacle course?”
* Probability lesson in math—visually show spinner faces that have equal fractional parts vs. spinner faces that are divided into irregular segments and discuss the probability the spinner will land on each area. Experiment and record the data to prove or disprove hypothesis.
* Flat spinner surfaces can be used for painting and to demonstrate force and motion
* Spinners can be paired with stories and other assistive technology. Example: *The Mitten* by Jan Brett—act out the plot, large parachute spinner with all the animals in the story. Spinner calls the animals who get to enter the mitten (parachute) one at a time. When the mouse and the bear are called into the mitten together (no matter what order) the bear sneezes and all the animals explode out of the mitten and the mitten goes flying, then simulation/game can start again
* Pick a book for daily shared reading time from a topical text set or genre
* Guide a peer to place parts on a potato head, build a snowman or select choices to produce artwork
* Select punctuation for an activity “give/show me, write or say a sentence using…punctuation”
* Call out colors for game play such as Twister or Candyland
* Select a geographic location to visit virtually or in person (fieldtrip)
* Select dance moves during music or gym or select music from a specific era to listen to during class or activity
* Select pictures for class to give first sound, rime, syllables, morphemes and/or phonemes
* Select pictures or names of characters for a “which book or series do I belong in?”
* Trace and cut out tempo-loop or indoor-outdoor carpet overlays for the spinner to create a Velcro surface to affix symbols or objects
* Spin to determine a fun or free time activity
* Select story starters for a class or individual writing prompt
* Select interview questions or questions about a topic or story
* Select vocabulary, quiz questions or other information for unit content review before a test or exam
* Call out BINGO numbers, pictures, vocabulary, etc.
* Use inner circle to select a color and the outer circle to select a shape for pattern block or geometry activities
* Use inner circle to select a short vowel sound and the outer circle to select a beginning or ending sound for word play or spelling practice/games (“make a word with the short /a/ sound and begins with the letter h”)
* Virtual wheel of names: <https://wheelofnames.com/>
* PPT spinner wheel with numbers: (downloadable) <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1egDvyq1aYCZtn8tcmoL_wy1g5FO7xrCj/edit>