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## Caselite, SLP Scheduling Software



What happens when a school-based SLP and a computer wizard marry? They create a terrific caseload management tool! Using an internet based program by Caselite Software, you input teacher/RTI restrictions, student needs, your personal time constraints, any desired "custom groupings" of kids, and push a button. Voila! The computer makes a schedule based on your requirements, which you can then adjust as desired. Pacific Coast Speech Services' SLPs and SLP-As love the ease of use and wonderful customer support. Our only caveat is that the software is not yet set up for SLP-As who work on the same day as an SLP, but the Caselite support team can help you with several "work-arounds." Costs about \$140 for an individual for a year. District subscriptions with additional features are also available. [www.caselitesoftware.com](http://www.caselitesoftware.com).

## Teaching Thanksgiving Gratitude



QUICK! Halloween is approaching, and Thanksgiving is right around the corner! Grab your file of turkeys, pilgrims, and cornucopia activities. Or instead, how about using Thanksgiving as a springboard for teaching gratitude?

Think of how critical it is to be able to thank others and to give/receive compliments. How many of your students struggle with these skills? Here are some suggestions to get your creativity going. We would love to hear what YOU are doing!

1. Teach specific steps on giving a compliment (search for an area to compliment such as appearance, skill, talent; offer your friendly thought; wait for a response). Practice verbally or in writing.
2. Teach specific responses to receiving a compliment (Say "Thank you", say something extra like "it is nice of you to say so" or "you are a good friend to notice"). This step is hardly ever taught, and critical if you are to receive another compliment!

3. Host a [Thank You contest](#). Throughout the month of November, each time a student gives a compliment or expresses gratitude and reports it to you, he/she gets a leaf on a Thanksgiving tree. At the end of the month, the biggest "thanksgiver" receives a small reward.
4. For younger students, [teach Hap Palmer's song, Things I Am Thankful For](#). The song is available on iTunes. Lyrics, CDs, and brief curriculum ideas are also available on Mr. Palmer's website. Designed for public schools, it is not religious in content.
5. Have your students create a [Thanksgiving survey](#) to find out specifically what teachers and friends are thankful for. Have students discuss their findings and categorize answers according to their similarities (health, possessions, family).

Please let me take this opportunity to thank each and every subscriber to our newsletter for their comments, compliments, suggestions for topics and website links, and enthusiasm. It is an honor for me to be a speech pathologist, and it is a privilege to write a newsletter for people who are so passionate about serving students. THANK YOU!!!

### Featured Website, do2learn



This is a non-profit site for teachers and parents of kids with special needs. Great games, schedule organizers, activities and songs. Two of our favorite games are [Create a Room](#), and a [Facial Manipulation Activity](#) to help recognize emotions. The activities load quickly and are high interest. Just the right tool for a busy SLP or SLPA with internet access.

### Why I choose to work for Pacific Coast Speech Services, Inc.



When I joined PCSS nine years ago, I was an SLP with 20 years of experience in almost every facet of our profession, but was frustrated and losing my passion. I talked to Louise and was happily surprised that she actually described the exact potential school setting, caseload needs, and potential "issues" before asking me to take the plunge.

Assignments have been from one to five years in length. I make the choice of where I work and whether or not I would like to remain at the site from year to year. When challenges arise--from attitudes to personnel to caseload numbers, Louise and Annette are consistently there to step in, handle and solve the issues. As a Speech-Language Pathologist who loves the hands-on and is not so excited about dealing with the contractual and political end of our profession, PCSS has been and continues to be the ideal blend of professionalism, teamwork, friendship and opportunities for ongoing professional growth that allows me to stay passionate and provide state of the art evaluations and therapy. I'll NEVER leave PCSS, Inc.

If you are in the midst of that "what to do next" or "it may be time for a change" thought process, it would be my pleasure to answer any questions you might have! To contact me (confidentially of course) just e-mail [lvalente@pcss.net](mailto:lvalente@pcss.net) and place in the subject line "SLP-JG".

### Navigating the PCSS Website



Has it been a while since you have visited our website? Here's a quickie navigation guide.

Looking for a good therapy resource or a link we have previously recommended? Go to our links section.  
<http://www.pacificcoastspeech.com/html/links.htm>

Want to forward or re-read a copy of an archived newsletter?  
<http://www.pacificcoastspeech.com/html/newsletters.htm>

Want to find the answers to frequently asked questions about contracting?  
[http://www.pacificcoastspeech.com/html/speech\\_therapist\\_faq.htm](http://www.pacificcoastspeech.com/html/speech_therapist_faq.htm)

Want to learn who we are and what we believe?  
[http://www.pacificcoastspeech.com/html/aboutus\\_leadership.htm](http://www.pacificcoastspeech.com/html/aboutus_leadership.htm)

Want a quick overview of the website? Go the site map.  
<http://www.pacificcoastspeech.com/html/sitemap.htm>

Ready to investigate further, confidentially? Fill out a speech clinician inquiry.  
[http://www.pacificcoastspeech.com/html/speech\\_therapist\\_application.htm](http://www.pacificcoastspeech.com/html/speech_therapist_application.htm)

Administrators, need a clinician? Fill out the school job posting.  
[http://www.pacificcoastspeech.com/html/school\\_job\\_posting.htm](http://www.pacificcoastspeech.com/html/school_job_posting.htm)

## Jokes for Kids

### **Why did the cookie go to the hospital?**

Because it was feeling crummy.

### **Why did the football coach go to the bank?**

To get his quarter back.

### **Which sports player is the sloppiest eater?**

A basketball player. He is always dribbling!

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