This week at the Center:

Groups focused on celebrities and animals that resemble them. Sounds weird, right. Check out the link: http://www.boredpanda.com/celebrity-look-alikes-animals/

Groups focused on names, facts about each celebrity discussed and adjectives we could use as descriptors.

What's right for you?

Finding a language task that is at the right difficulty level and is interesting is the key! Don't get bogged down in where the tasks you pick falls in the task order of complexity. The tasks listed first are the most complex progressing to less complex. You want practice that is engaging AND at a level that you get a language workout but not so frustrating that you give up! The Intersection is available to everyone at the Center so it covers a wide range of abilities. Pick what works for you today!!

A word about the name:

The Intersection is where home meets the Center. So many wonder what happens behind closed doors or how do I help at home or are lost as to where to even begin. Check out the Intersection for ways to keep using your language at home and keep moving on your road to recovery.

Member Portal:

These are now available on our website in the **Member Portal**. Try it out!

Password: survivor

Listening and Reading:

- Buy a magazine, read the newspaper or watch the news / TV. Discuss with someone else facts that you learned. Have them read or listen too and check your accuracy.

- Watch a celebrity TED talk. Here is a list: http://www.ranker.com/list/celebrities-who-have-done-ted-talks/celebrity-lists

- Practice listening to yes / no questions. Again, this takes some work from a partner. Here is an example: Is Bill Clinton a singer? Is Elvis alive? Is John Travolta an actor? Did Harrison Ford crash his plane?

- Use pictures of celebrities of all varieties (sports, actors, politics, TV, religious) and match their written name to the faces, or their occupation, movies / shows / teams they are associated with.

Talking and Writing:

- Many of the listening tasks above will also challenge your speech or writing.

- Use celebrity faces & play ditch or marry. Have a mix of men & women. Don't bother sorting. Flip two at a time & state which one you'd marry & which one you'd ditch. You might be a man but find out your choices are Hitler & Peyton Manning. It's a game, have fun!

- Do a word chain with celebrity names. Each word has to start with the last letter of the preceding word. For ex: Elvis, Steven Tyler, Robert Redford

- Use pictures of celebrities. Have a partner say their first name, you fill in their last. You can do this with movie titles or TV shows too. You shouldn't need pictures for titles.

- Use the pictures of celebrities & state dead or alive, he or she, I like or I don't like.

- Practice writing, filling in the blanks or copying the names of celebrities.

- Have someone name each celebrity for you & repeat it. Go for the whole word or just the first sound.

Supported Conversation:

We all need help! Many members at the Center benefit from their conversational partner giving them some help. This means always encourage use of gestures, or use of a communication book, have paper nearby for writing or drawing, and give choices. When you don't understand, say so!

Questions or suggestions:

This is a work in progress! Email me (Melissa) with questions or concerns. I am happy to help!
msr@strokecomebackcenter.org

Multi-modal (speech, gestures, writing)

- Use pictures of celebrities of all varieties (sports, actors, politics, TV, religious) and sort them in all kinds of ways such as: occupation, like / don't like, sports vs politics, dead / alive.

- Put out two picture choices and play ditch or marry. Have a mix of men & women. Don't bother sorting. Flip two at a time & communicate which one you'd marry & which one you'd ditch. You might be a man but find out your choices are Hitler and Peyton Manning. It's a game, have fun! Be creative. You might be surprised!!

- Use Google images. Pick a favorite actor or movie and start there. Look at the movie images and let the member follow the images they want to look at. Ask can ask yes / no questions (Did you like that movie? Did you see it? Would you want to watch it again?), reminisce about shows you have seen together Follow their lead and see where you end up.

- Into musicals? Sing some show tunes.

Do something together!

- Have any home movies or videos? Re-watch those and you be the celebrity. Use maps or names of people and places to communicate ideas about the video.

- Can you tell the difference between real and wax figures? Check this out:
  http://www.etonline.com/gallery/135888_Real_Or_Wax/

- You could get wild and go to DC to Madame Tussaudes Wax museum or Baltimore for Great Black in Wax.

- Like TV…check out this site for the 50 best TV theme songs. You can listen together, sing along or write a list of the titles and see if you can match them up.
  http://dailyoftheday.com/top-50-best-american-television-theme-songs/