Story 9
Sam Breaks the Piñata

Suggested Targets:

1. Present tense verbs (third person)
2. Use of “is”
3. Spatial concepts
4. Concepts relating to quantity (few, many)
5. Negatives (not)
6. Comparatives

Picture 1
Sam has a blindfold over his eyes. He is holding a stick in his hands. He is ready to hit the piñata. The piñata has candy inside it.

Picture 2
Sam is taking off his blindfold. He wants to see the piñata. He wants to be the one who breaks it.

Picture 3
The piñata does not break the first time he hits it. Sam hits the piñata a few times. The piñata swings back and forth.

Picture 4
“This time I’m going to hit it harder,” says Sam. Sam swings the stick as hard as he can. The piñata cracks open. Many pieces of candy fall on the ground.

Recalling Story Details

1. What does Sam hit with the stick? (He hits a piñata.)
2. Why does Sam take off his blindfold? (He takes his blindfold off so he can see the piñata.)

3. Does the piñata break the first time he hits it? (No, it does not break.)

4. What happens when the piñata cracks open? (Many pieces of candy fall on the ground.)

Concept Contrasts

1. Does Sam wear a blindfold over his eyes or above his eyes? (He wears a blindfold over his eyes.)

2. Does he hit the piñata a few times or many times? (He hits the piñata a few times.)

   What does the word few mean? (a small amount; two or three)

   What does the word many mean? (a lot)

3. Is the piñata above or below Sam? (The piñata is above Sam.)

4. The piñata doesn’t break the first time Sam hits it. Does he need to give it a softer hit? (No, he needs to hit it harder.)