

## The Hanson Reading "Gumball Machine"

## This prop can be used many ways.

## For me:

Every time my student follows a direction or responds cheerfully to a request, etc., I give the child a sticker in a little box next to each child.

Then at the end of the lesson, I have the student empty the box, take the backing off the stickers and place the stickers in a-left-to-right direction beginning from the top. The stickers must touch each other. When two rows are completed, I give the child a gum ball or a small treat. The circles end in the middle, but by that time they know how to line-up the stickers with each one touching the one on the left and the one above-no gaps!

You can make up your own rules. It helps me as a teacher to distribute stickers as a means of positive reinforcement, otherwise I don't notice how often I neglect praising my child for a request completed. I let the child choose the color of the stickers every lesson just for fun.

All children respond better when we give honest words of praise for progress made. Learning how to read is a long process, and encouragement is needed along the way, so the stickers become a way for me to see how I am doing praising progress.

My best to you. Lynne Hanson

