Skit Title: "Behind the Scenes at the Hatchery!"

R Characters:

- Ben enthusiastic, always curious about how things work, loves discovering new places.
- **Isabella** thoughtful, detail-oriented, likes to clearly understand and explain new information.

[Scene opens at Columbia Springs fish hatchery. Ben and Isabella stand near Mr. Engelbrecht, holding their vocabulary sheets and observing a diagram of the hatchery.]

Ben: (excitedly) Wow, Isabella! Did you know the water here comes straight from a **spring**? Isn't that like nature's own water fountain?

Isabella: Exactly, Ben! A **spring** is a spot where water leaks out from an **aquifer**. Remember, that's an underground lake we can't see directly.

Ben: So cool! I never thought about lakes underground. But how do they get the spring water exactly where they need it?

Isabella: Great question! They use something called a **distribution box**. It collects spring water and directs it straight to different parts of the hatchery.

Ben: Like delivering water exactly where baby fish need it, right?

Isabella: Yup! First, it goes to the **incubation room**. That's where fish eggs hatch and grow for their first few months. But we can't visit there—it's special and private for the fish.

Ben: That makes sense. The babies need quiet time! (grins) So, what happens after they're big enough?

Isabella: After hatching, the tiny fish go into **troughs**, shallow tubs designed to hold them safely as they grow.

Ben: Like tiny fish bathtubs?

Isabella: (laughing) Exactly! And once they're bigger, they move into these **round ponds** and **raceway ponds**. The round ponds hold smaller fish, and the raceway ponds are for bigger ones ready for more room.

Ben: Ah, I see! Like moving from a small playground to a bigger field. And what's this part called the **spillway**?

Isabella: That's really important! The **spillway** is a channel leading extra water away safely, protecting the fish and hatchery from flooding.

Ben: Smart! Keeping the hatchery safe and fish happy. I bet Mr. Engelbrecht is happy we're learning so much today!

Isabella: Definitely! We have great notes for our **data collection**, too. Let's make sure we don't miss anything.

Ben: Right! Let's go find more amazing things about the hatchery!

[Ben and Isabella follow Mr. Engelbrecht eagerly, chatting happily and taking careful notes as they explore the hatchery further.]

[End Scene]