

Vocabulary Games to reinforce Describing

Here are some games which can be used to reinforce the learning for Learning Outcome 12: Description, Prediction and Reflection (with particular focus on description) and Learning Outcome 5: Vocabulary.

Vo-BACK-ulary?

Here's a vocabulary-reinforcing game that your children will beg to play! Write a list of new words on the board and on index cards. Review the words and their meanings with your children, then ask for a volunteer. Tape a word card onto the volunteer's back, without revealing the word to the child. Ask the child to turn so that the class can see the card. Have the child call on classmates, one at a time, for helpful informational clues about the word. For example, if the word is gargantuan, a good clue might be "as big as a giant." When the child guesses the word correctly, it's time for the next volunteer. Or, have everyone play at once by taping a word card on each pupil's back. The children move about the room quietly asking for clues. When a child discovers the word, he or she sits down.

Bromley, K. (2002) *Stretching Childs Vocabulary*. Scholastic, NY, NY

Newspaper (Picture) Detective

Hand at least one page of the newspaper or magazine (or a printed picture) to each child. Each child finds a picture or article that relates to a word from the topic, e.g. describing a setting and cuts it out. After most children have found words, ask them to explain to the class why their picture or article relates to their word of choice.

How to Expand the Game:

- Have children write on a separate sheet of paper why this picture or article relates to their chosen word.
- Possibly post some on the word wall. Ask children to find as many articles or pictures as possible that relate to multiple words.

Look Out For:

- Try to choose sections of the newspaper with more pictures, including ads.
- Make sure to leave time for children to clean up their newspaper and magazine scraps.

Possible Modifications for pupils with Special Educational Needs/ EAL:

- Children can work in groups to find related pictures and articles.
- Children can bring in newspapers or magazines in their native language.