



Games and activities to support the reading and spelling of the 100/200 high frequency words

Pairs

You need 2 sets of word cards. Pick out the word cards that your child already knows for the first few times you play the game so that they enjoy it and succeed. Then, gradually take out some of the word cards they know and replace them with a number of words they don't know. Place the 2 sets of word cards you have chosen face down. Turn one card over and say the word, turn another card over and say the word. If they match and you have made a pair you can keep the pair and you have another go. If they did not match it is the next person's turn. Keep going until all the words have been paired.

Snap

You need 2 sets of word cards. Each person has a pile of cards they keep face down. Each person turns a card over in turn and says the word they turnover. If they match you have to shout the word (and not snap). The first person to shout the word that matches is the winner of the cards on the table. Keep going until all the cards have been won.

Silly sentence

Use one set of word cards. Spread the word cards out face down. Pick 3 cards and turn them face up, say the words as they are turned up. Now try and make up a silly sentence that includes all 3 words on the cards.

Shout out loud

Use one set of word cards. Spread the word cards out face down. Take it in turns to turn over one card at a time. The first person to shout the word out loud wins the card. Keep going until all the cards have been won. You can play this with silly voices. Before you turn over a card you have to decide what sort of voice you have to use to say the word e.g. whisper the word, say it like a gorilla, roar it like a lion, squeak it like a mouse.

Hunt the words

Use one set of word cards. Hide a number of them around a room (your child must not look). The child has to find the cards and bring them back to you saying the words they find as they find them.

Stepping stones

Use one set of word cards. Spread a number of cards over the floor. Ask your children to jump from one word to another as if they are jumping from stepping stone to stepping stone. As they jump they have to say what word they are going to jump to next. Make sure they say the word before they jump!

Slap the word

Use one set of word cards. Spread a number of cards out on a table or the floor. Ask someone to say one of the words. Whoever is first to slap the word with their hand (or the back of a spoon) wins the word.

I'm thinking of a word

Use one set of word cards. Spread a number of cards out. You pick a word but don't tell your child which word you are thinking of. Say "I'm thinking of a word, the word begins with....." The child has to guess what the word might be from the ones spread out. If they guess correctly they can keep the card. If they can't guess then give them another clue "I'm thinking of a word that hassounds" or ".....ends with....." or "....has the word ant in it." Keep giving clues until they guess the word.