Introduction

Here is an imaginative verb game to help students practice or review verb meanings and sentence structure.

Procedure

Draw a large tree with many branches on the board.

Ask the students what is missing from the tree and elicit the word 'leaves'.

Tell the students that they are going to provide leaves for the tree.

Give each student a post-it note or piece of paper cut into the shape of a leaf.

Divide the students into two teams (A and B).

Tell the students to each think of a different verb and write it on their paper.

The team members then discuss what verb each student should write. You could also ask the students to choose verbs from a list if there are specific verbs you want them to practice.

When the students have finished, invite a student from Team A to come up to the board with their leaf.

The student says the verb aloud and sticks the verb on the tree.

Team B then has one minute to make a meaningful sentence with the verb and write it on the board. If they are able to do this, the team scores one point.

A student from Team B then comes up to the board with their leaf and Team A tries to make a sentence and so on.

This continues until all the verbs are on the tree.

The team with the most points wins the game.

As an extension, ask students to work in pairs and use some of the verbs or sentences on the board to create a story. You can set the number of verbs or sentences to be included and award a prize for the best story.

This game can be used to practice or revise a variety of language and vocabulary. You could have an adjective tree, a sports tree, a food tree, etc. You could also choose a theme for the tree such as Christmas or Halloween. The procedure is the same.