

Activity Type

Listening and speaking activity, group work

Language Focus

Family-related vocabulary
Possessives

Aim

To describe and guess family-related vocabulary.

Preparation

Make one copy of the cards and cut as indicated.

Level

Pre-intermediate

Time

30 minutes

Introduction

In this entertaining activity, students play a game where they describe and guess family-related vocabulary. This versatile activity can also be adapted into a spelling relay and a board race game.

Procedure

Divide the class into two teams. One student from each team comes to the front of the class.

Explain that the two students are going to race to describe the name of a family member to their teammates and that the first team to guess the word scores a point.

Pick a card and show the word on the card to both students.

The two students then race to describe the family member on the card to their respective teams, e.g. 'Your mother's brother is your...'

The first team to correctly guess the family member (e.g. uncle) wins and scores a point.

Then, two new students come to the front of the class and so on.

The game continues until all the cards have been used.

The team with the most points at the end of the game wins.

As an extension or variation, students play a spelling relay. Have the two teams line up in front of the board. Show a card to the student at the back of each line. These students write the family-related word with their fingers on the back of the person in front of them. The word is written on the back of the next student and so on down the line until it reaches the student at the front. That student writes the word on the board. The first team to write the correct word on the board scores a point. The students at the front of the lines then go to the back and the game continues.

This activity can also be adapted into a board race game. Stick all the cards on the board. Have the two teams line up at the back of the classroom. Make sure students have a clear runway to the board. Describe one of the family members from the board. The student at the front of each line races to the board to grab the card that matches with the description. The first student to pick the right card scores a point for their team. The game continues until all the cards have been taken from the board.

uncle

granddaughter

stepbrother

niece

stepson

grandchild

father

stepmother

daughter-in-law

great-grandson

mother

stepdaughter

great-
granddaughter

stepfather

son-in-law

grandfather

sister

grandparents

brother-in-law

daughter

grandmother

aunt

brother

father-in-law

wife

mother-in-law

great-grandfather

stepsister

husband

son

great-grandmother

cousin

nephew

sister-in-law

sibling

fiancé

parent

spouse

fiancée

grandson