

VOCABULARY BINGO

Vocabulary Bingo is a game for the whole class that encourages students to study and review their vocabulary words. The objective is to be the first student to get bingo by matching the definition given by the teacher to the vocabulary word on their bingo card.

Corresponding Events

- Any events requiring vocabulary development

Objectives

- Students will review vocabulary.
- Teacher will be able to assess students' knowledge of vocabulary.

Materials

- Vocabulary list that class is covering
- Plain white paper unless using copies of the Vocabulary Bingo Cards
- Copies of the [Vocabulary Bingo Cards](#) –Optional
- Pen, pencil, or highlighter unless using chips or small pieces of colored paper
- Chips or small pieces of colored paper -- Optional
- Fun prizes -- Optional

Activity Time:

30 minutes

Concepts Taught:

Vocabulary Review

How To Play

1. Students divide a plain piece of paper into five equal rows and columns by folding the paper in halves until there are 16 squares on the paper. The students determine where their free space will be and write the word "Free" in one of the spaces on the card. You may also print bingo cards for your students. You may also write the words on the cards creating several versions of bingo cards by writing different words on the cards and/or in different order.
2. Using their vocabulary list, they chose any 16 words and write the words in any order, one in each box, on their bingo card.
3. All the vocabulary words and definitions are written on strips of paper and put in a container. The teacher pulls a strip out of the container and reads the definition, checking the word off her list.
4. The students highlight the word that matches the definition. When students have four across, diagonally, or vertically they yell out "Bingo!" The first student to get bingo wins!
5. Have students read out the words that gave them bingo, checking that you actually read the definitions for those words.
6. Give winners prizes. Prepare prizes for the winners. You may choose to award extra credit points to add to the quiz grade (make sure you keep a list of winners handy when you start adding extra credit points). You may also choose to award candy or toy prizes, depending on your school and classroom rules. Whatever you choose to do, make sure you tell your students about the prizes before you begin the activity.
7. Students switch cards and play again!

Options

- Award a small prize to the winner.
- Play four corners.
- Play to cover whole board.

Assessments

As the game progresses, walk around the room and check that the students are participating and are placing the markers on the correct spaces. Also, assess the students when they win a game by checking their cards to see that they correctly matched the definition to the word on the Bingo card.

Extensions

1. This activity is well-adapted for ESE or ESOL students. You can also allow extra time to study by giving these students the vocabulary words prior to your introduction of this material.
2. You might also have the Bingo cards laminated for longer durability.

Helpful Files

This site contains a bingo card template that automatically fills in your card as you enter your vocabulary word and definition in the table.

<http://www.redshift.com/~bonajo/vocabbingo.htm>

This file contains a blank Bingo card:

http://www.beaconlearningcenter.com/documents/396_01.pdf