Word Match

Word Match is a game intended for people ages 12 and up to match nouns and adjectives that are related. You can make the game yourself and play it in order to gain exposure to new words to expand your vocabulary. You can also practice other literacy skills, including morpheme awareness, making connections to background knowledge, and social connections.

For more on this game and the use of games to practice literacy skills, read the Iowa Reading Research Center blog post **"Learning English With Your Children and Teens: Making and Playing Games to practice English"** by Kate Will.

How to Make Word Match

1. To create the adjective cards, think of as many English adjectives, or words that describe a noun, as you can. Write one adjective on each adjective card. Below the adjective, write several synonyms, or words that have similar meanings.
2. To create noun cards, think of as many English nouns as you can. Write one noun on each noun card. To generate ideas, ask yourself these questions:
   - Where are your favorite places to go?
   - Who are some people you see each day?
   - Who are some famous people you would like to meet?
   - Who are your favorite characters from books or movies?
   - What are your favorite foods, sports, books, movies, or TV shows?

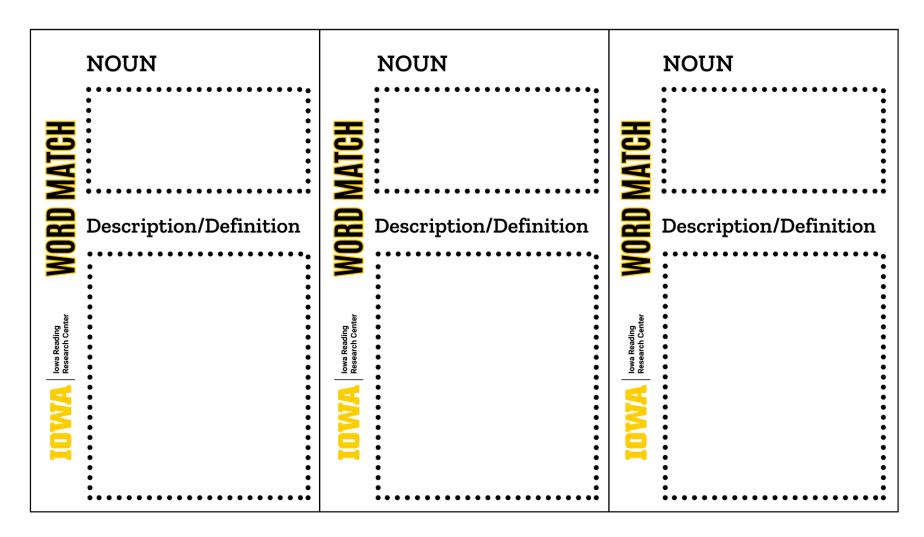   Below the noun, write a description or definition of the noun.

How to Play Word Match

1. Turn all the noun and adjective cards face-up so all players can read the words on each card.
2. Start with the youngest player and continue in a clockwise direction.
3. Take turns selecting a noun card and adjective card that describes what is on the noun card.
4. When a match has been made, pick up the two cards and display them for all players to see.
5. If a majority of the players agree with the noun and adjective pairing, the player who selected the pair keeps both cards.
6. Continue taking turns until all noun cards have been selected, or when it is no longer possible to find appropriate noun-and-adjective pairs.
7. The player with the most cards wins!

Word Match Noun Cards

WORD MATCH

NOUN

Description/Definition

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WORD MATCH

NOUN

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NOUN

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Word Match Adjective Cards

WORD MATCH

ADJECTIVE

Synonyms

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WORD MATCH

ADJECTIVE

Synonyms

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WORD MATCH

ADJECTIVE

Synonyms

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