

# Letter-Sound Memory Game



## Materials:

IRRC Letter-Sound Memory Game (Includes Letter-Sound Cards and Picture Cards)

## Directions:

1. The IRRC Letter-Sound Memory Game includes 26 letter-sound cards and 26 corresponding picture cards. Cut out the letter-sound cards and picture cards.
2. Shuffle the letter-sound cards with the picture cards and lay them face down in rows. You can play the game with as few as two pairs (4 cards total) or as many as 26 pairs (52 cards total).
3. Tell your child, "We are going to take turns flipping over two cards to see if they match. We want to match the letter with the picture that starts with that letter sound. For example, the letter "s" matches with a picture of a snake because the sound of the letter "s" is /s/, like in snake."
4. Let your child go first and flip over 2 cards.
5. Say the name of each card out loud when it's turned over. For example, "You found 'g,' /g/" or "You found a goat!"
6. If the letter and picture match, keep the pair and take another turn.
7. If the pair does not match, turn the cards back over, and the next player takes a turn.
8. Keep playing until all matches are found.
9. Count how many matches each player found at the end.

## Feedback/Support

- For Step 5, if your child is able, have them identify each card, and provide support as needed.
- To make the game easier, use as few as 2 letters (4 cards total), and to make it more challenging, add more letter-sound and picture cards.

## Additional Tips

- Keep it fun by cheering when a match is made.
- To give your child extra practice, you can end your turn after finding one match.
- Although practicing taking turns is important, try to keep the game fun and focused on learning instead of who ends up with the most matches.

## Instructions for Printing

This document is designed for double-sided printing so that each card has a "Sparky the Firefly" backing to prevent players from seeing through the paper. If your printer cannot automatically print double-sided, start by printing all odd-numbered pages, reload those pages into your printer, and then print all even-numbered pages on the back.

Copyright (2026). The University of Iowa. All rights reserved.

**IOWA** | Iowa Reading  
Research Center



















