

Vowels Connect Four

Developed by Steve Cooke from the Ethnic Minority Achievement Team in Nottingham with some slight adaptations by Stuart Scott. The game board is printed in two parts and you will need to glue 1A to 1B by snipping off one of the margins. We have then laminated the board since it is then likely to last longer. Remember you will need to print the cards in two colours to play the game. If you can laminate the cards children can then write the word they have chosen on the back in washable felt tip as they play.

Activity last updated 10th May 2004

The webaddress for this activity is:

<http://www.collaborativelearning.org/vowelsconnectfour.pdf>

COLLABORATIVE LEARNING PROJECT

Project Director: Stuart Scott

Supporting a cooperative network of teaching professionals throughout the European Union to develop and disseminate accessible teaching materials in all subject areas and for all ages.

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BRIEF SUMMARY OF BASIC PRINCIPLES BEHIND OUR TEACHING ACTIVITIES:

The project is a teacher network, and a non-profit making educational trust. Our main aim is to develop and disseminate classroom tested examples of effective group strategies across all phases and subjects. We hope they will inspire you to develop and use similar strategies in other topics and curriculum areas. We run teacher workshops, swapshops and conferences throughout the European Union. The project publishes a catalogue of activities plus lists in selected subject areas, and a newsletter available on the internet: "PAPERCLIP".

*These activities were influenced by current thinking about the role of language in learning. They are designed to help children learn through talk and active learning in small groups. They work best in mixed classes where children in need of language or learning support are integrated. They are well suited for the development of speaking and listening. They provide teachers opportunities for assessment of speaking and listening and other formative assessment.

*They support differentiation by placing a high value on what children can offer to each other on a particular topic, and also give children the chance to respect each other's views and formulate shared opinions which they can disseminate to peers. By helping them to take ideas and abstract concepts, discuss, paraphrase and move them about physically, they help to develop thinking skills.

*They give children the opportunity to participate in their own words and language in their own time without pressure. Many activities can be tried out in mother tongue and afterwards in English. A growing number of activities are available in more than one language, not translated, but mixed, so that you may need more than one language to complete the activity.

*They encourage study skills in context, and should therefore be used with a range of appropriate information books which are preferably within reach in the classroom.

*They are generally adaptable over a wide age range because children can bring their own knowledge to an activity and refer to books at an appropriate level. The activities work like catalysts.

*All project activities were planned and developed by teachers working together, and the main reason they are disseminated is to encourage teachers to work effectively with each other inside and outside the classroom. They have made it possible for mainstream and language and learning support teachers to share an equal role in curriculum delivery. They should be adapted to local conditions. In order to help us keep pace with curriculum changes, please send any new or revised activities back to the project, so that we can add them to our lists of materials.

Vowels Connect Four

a	ai	e
i	o_e	u
ee	e	ea
a_e	o	oo

Board 1A

ay	ou	o
ow	i_e	ee
ea	o	ui
u	a	or

Board 1B

Vowels Connect Four Cards

A kind of food	Something you find in the house	Something you find in the kitchen
Something you drink	A kind of toy	The name of an animal
Something you wear	A kind of transport	Something you do (verb)
The name of a job	A part of the body	A kind of sport or game
Something you find in the garden	Something you find in the street	Something you find in the sea

Cards for Board 1

Vowels Connect Four Cards

Something you find in the classroom	A boy's name	A kind of plant or tree
Something you see outside	A kind of building	Something you find in school
A word you find in literacy	A job someone does	A connecting word

HOW TO PLAY VOWELS CONNECT FOUR

You need 4 people, one baseboard and two sets of cards (different colours.)

Work with a partner to make a team of two.

Place your cards in a pile facing down.

Take it in turn to turn over your top card and try to think of a word.

Write it on the back of the card with a washable pen and place it on the board where the vowels match

The winning team is the first to get four in row vertically, diagonally or horizontally..

Cards and instructions for Board 1