



## ESL Group Games

### **“Guess the Word”**

Students play in teams, standing in rows. The first student in each row faces his teammates. That student must NOT look at the board in front. A word will be written on the board. The team of students must shout out hints in ENGLISH so that their team member can guess the word. Establish early that simply saying the word in their native language is NOT OK, nor is telling them the answer! Once a student has guessed the correct word, they can choose someone to take their place in front of the team. The student that correctly answers wins a point for their team.

Some Suggested Words: Tree, Book, River, Apple, Dancing, Train, Teacher, Chair, Pencil Horse

### **“Alphabet Game”**

Write the letters of the alphabet on the board and tell the students the word-set that you are going to review- for example: “jobs.” The first student must think of a word in that word-set. When a student says a word, wipe off that letter from the board. For example, if a student says “policeman,” wipe off the P from board. Once a letter has been removed from the alphabet, a student cannot say a word beginning with that letter. If a student can’t think of a word, they are eliminated from the game. The winner is the last student standing.

Suggested Word-sets: Colors, Animals, Foods, Sports, School, Subjects, Countries, Body parts, Clothing, Names, Family Members

### **“Run for the Answer”**

Prepare answers to questions on pieces of paper. In teams, one student from each group runs up to the teacher, grabs a piece of paper, and runs back to the team. The group then must think of an appropriate question to match the answer.

For example: “Rainy”                      Question: What is the weather like today?  
“Fine, thank you.”                      Question: “How are you today?”

The team that finishes first and with the most correct questions wins!

\* Can also be used in reverse where the teams must think of answers to questions.

### **“Race to Reorder Sentences”**

Place the class into teams. One student from each group will come to the teacher and get a jumbled sentence written on a piece of paper. They bring the jumbled sentence back to the group and race to reorder the sentence. When they think that they have finished, they show the teacher the re-ordered sentence. If it’s correct, the teacher gives them a new jumbled sentence. If not, they go back and try again. The winning group will have rearranged the most number of sentences.

For example:

like dogs I much. very  I like dogs very much.

today? weather like is the What  What is the weather like today?

More Ideas... Word Searches Learning Children’s Songs Crossword Puzzles  
Hang-man Tic-Tac-Toe Riddles English Card Games M\*A\*S\*H Jokes