



# Vocabulary Charades

Building word knowledge and conceptual understanding using key vocabulary

*Suggested Time: 15 minutes*

## Student Tasks:

- Review Vocabulary List
- Review rules and time limits
- Play Vocabulary Charades

## Online ThinkCERCA Resources

- Vocabulary

## Rationale/Research Base

Playing charades with vocabulary is a dynamic and interactive strategy that can significantly enhance students' vocabulary comprehension and retention.

## Optimal Application Notes:

Choose a list of vocabulary words that are meaningful or relevant to the unit or objective. Words can be abstract or concrete.

### Before:

- Create word cards with the words written or printed clearly.
- Begin with a demonstration round to ensure that students understand how to play. Choose a volunteer to act out a vocabulary word while the rest of the class guesses.
- Establish time limits for each round of charades. This adds a sense of urgency and keeps the game moving at an engaging pace.

### During:

- Choose one student to begin with a word. Remind them that the goal is to convey meanings through actions and gestures.
- Award points for successful guesses and creative performances. Consider having a scoring system to track each student or team's progress throughout the game.

### After:

- After each round, take a moment to reflect on the vocabulary words. Discuss the meanings, usage, and any challenges students encountered during the charades.
- Consider extending the learning by having students write sentences or short paragraphs using the vocabulary words they encountered during the charades. This reinforces application and contextual understanding.

## Scaffolds & Supports:

- Consider preparing brief definitions or clues for each vocabulary word on the cards. These can be provided to students as hints if they struggle to come up with ideas during the charades.
- Promote inclusivity by encouraging a supportive atmosphere during the activity. Celebrate the diverse ways students choose to express vocabulary words.

# Vocabulary Charades

**Instructions:** Reinforce vocabulary comprehension and creativity through a fun and interactive game of charades. You and your classmates act out your take on the key words.

## Review and Brainstorm:

- Review the vocabulary and definitions. Make sure you understand the meaning of each word.
- Brainstorm how each word could be portrayed.

## Guidelines for Vocabulary Charades:

- Understand the Rules: During charades, one student must act out the word without using any verbal cues or spoken words to their team.
- Choose a Player: One player will start the game. This player will select a vocabulary word from the list without showing it to anyone else.
- Act Out the Word: The chosen player must then act out the selected vocabulary word silently, using gestures, facial expressions, and body movements to convey the meaning of the word to their teammates.
- Guess the Word: The player's teammates must try to guess the vocabulary word based on the actions performed by the actor. They can discuss and collaborate to come up with their guesses.
- Set a Time Limit (Optional): To keep the game moving, you can set a time limit for each round of charades. Use a timer to ensure fairness and consistency.
- Guessing and Feedback: Once the vocabulary word is correctly guessed or the time limit is reached, reveal the word to the players. Encourage discussion about the word's meaning and usage and provide feedback as needed.
- Rotate Players or Teams: After each round, rotate to the next player or team. Continue playing until all vocabulary words have been acted out or until the designated time for the activity is over.
- Reflect and Discuss: After the game, take time to reflect on the vocabulary words that were acted out. Discuss any new insights or connections made during the game, and clarify any misunderstandings about the words.

# Vocabulary Charades

3rd – 5th

**Instructions:** Get creative and get more familiar with your vocabulary with a fun and interactive game of charades. You and your classmates act out your take on the keywords.

## Review and Brainstorm:

- Review the vocabulary, definitions, and parts of speech. Make sure you understand the meaning of each word.
- Brainstorm how each word could be portrayed.

## Guidelines for Vocabulary Charades:

- Understand the Rules: During charades, one student must act out the word without speaking to their team.
- Choose a Player: One player will start the game. This player will choose a vocabulary word from the list without showing it to anyone else.
- Act Out the Word: The chosen player must then act out the chosen vocabulary word silently. The person can use gestures, facial expressions, and body movements to try to get the meaning of the word across to their teammates.
- Guess the Word: The player's teammates must try to guess the vocabulary word based. They can discuss as a team to come up with their guesses.
- Set a Time Limit (Optional): To keep the game moving, you can set a time limit for each round of charades.
- Guessing and Feedback: Once the vocabulary word is correctly guessed or your team has reached the time limit, tell the word to the players. Encourage discussion about the word's meaning and provide feedback.
- Rotate Players or Teams: Make sure you take turns with other students to both act out the word and guess. Continue playing until all vocabulary words have been acted out or until the time for the activity is over.
- Reflect and Discuss: After the game, take time to reflect on the vocabulary words that were acted out. Discuss any new ideas or connections made during the game, and ask questions about any confusing words.