

Sentence Sleuth

Literacy Skills / Concept of Word



Materials

1. A familiar sentence from a nursery rhyme, song, or favorite class book
2. Blank cards with magnets on the back



Virginia SOLs

K.5

Procedure

1. Use one blank card for each word in the sentence. Place the cards on the board. Review the sentence several times until all students can repeat it correctly. As you say the sentence, point to each card.
2. Say a word in the sentence and invite a child to come up to the board and touch the card that represents that word.
3. Then, say the sentence one more time, but change one of the words in the sentence (e.g., *Mary had a little lamb* becomes *Mary had a little cat*).
4. Pick one student to be the sentence sleuth. S/he will show you which word you changed by touching that card on the board.
5. EXTENSION: Using multisyllabic words in a sentence creates a more challenging activity. Longer sentences are also more challenging. Changing a word in the middle of the sentence will be more challenging than changing a word at the beginning or end of the sentence.