



Phonological Awareness Literacy Screening

Pre-K

Kindergarten

Grades 1–3

War of Words

Literacy Skills / Word Recognition



Materials

1. 1 standard deck of cards, jokers removed
2. Self-stick labels
3. Student pairs



Virginia SOLs

K.5, 1.5

Procedure

1. Make word labels of word bank words. Place a word label on each card.
2. Deal out the entire deck to the two players. Students place their two stacks face down.
3. Students simultaneously flip the card on the top of their respective decks.
4. The student with the “highest” card is given the opportunity to be first to read the two word labels. If the student can read both words, s/he adds the cards to his/her pile. If s/he cannot read the words, the other player is given the opportunity to read and win the cards. If neither student can read the word labels, the cards remain in the middle. They are not awarded to either player.
7. Continue to play until one person has all the cards or until a predetermined time expires.
8. “War of the Words” occurs when two people turn up the same card value, such as two Queens. The players each lay out three cards face down and one card face up. Again, the player with the higher card is given the first opportunity to read the words and take all.