

Word War

Supplies: deck of playing cards, word card lists, tape

What youngster **doesn't** enjoy a good battle of the card game, WAR??? If you are unfamiliar with this old game, do not worry. It is anything but violent!

My grandmother introduced me to card games when I was a young child. Card games have provided me with countless hours of entertainment, fun interaction with family members, and a solid mathematical understanding of addition/subtraction, logic, and probability. Pair the mathematical benefits with reading practice for a winning combination!

Take a list of sight or spelling words that are appropriate for your child's current abilities. If you are not sure of the best words for your learner, experiment by having him read 5 words from different lists. When he is able to read some and work to sound out other words (50/50), you've found an appropriate list. Some places to obtain word card lists from the Internet are:

<http://www.theschoolbell.com/Links/Dolch/Dolch.html>

<http://www.scps.k12.fl.us/curriculum/index.cfm?fuseaction=wordlist>

http://www.k111.k12.il.us/lafayette/fourblocks/word_wall_grade_level_lists.htm

<http://www.areasonfor.com/areasonfor/spelling/wordlists/>

Cut apart and tape one word card to each playing card. Play the game of war with the twist of reading the sight/spelling words!

WORD WAR

The object is to obtain the highest number of cards by the end of the game.

- Deal entire deck to players (2-4)
- Take one card at a time and flip over; higher number wins the 2 cards (word war twist: lower number must read the word on his card); put won cards in separate pile
- "War" occurs when two players flip the same number card; three more cards are placed (face down) on top of the same number cards; fourth card placed on top is flipped over and high number wins all of those cards; lower number on top still must read his card word
- When players use all cards, go to your winnings pile, shuffle, and continue play
- Winner is player with the most cards when one player runs out
- Play again!

