

Bingo

Learning Objective

Reinforcing sight recognition of high-frequency words



Presentation and Storage

Using the word list template, create a composite word list based on the first 40 words of your 200-word spelling list (see page 15). You may also wish to use the sample word list on page 58 and make game cards from these words. Photocopy the word list, cut out each word, and place the words in a box. Create game cards by randomly choosing words from the word list and writing them in the boxes of the Bingo game cards. For durability, mount the cards on colored cardstock and laminate them. Present the center in a plastic basket and store cards in a resealable bag. Use plastic chips for markers and also store them in a resealable bag. Only fill the marker bag once. If students lose these, tell them they will have to figure out for themselves what to use for markers. Students will quickly learn to take care of the materials if there is an authentic consequence.



Process

Students use traditional Bingo rules to play this learning game. Though the game usually requires a minimum of two players, students can play alone. One student acts as the “word caller,” picking words from the box and announcing them to the other players. A student playing alone may decide to be the word caller and play two or three cards simultaneously. These centers work best when as few rules as possible are imposed. If you make the learning objectives clear, provide the necessary materials, and leave the fine-tuning to the children, the desired learning will occur.

Helpful Hints

To make the game appropriate for a range of abilities, vary the difficulty of the words on the playing cards. Color-code the cards so students can choose appropriate difficulty levels.

- Green is a “go” for everyone.
- Yellow is a “caution”—the learning level is warming up.
- Red is “stop” and think—are you ready for a red-hot challenge?

Students can also create their own playing cards. Before beginning a game, have players select words from the word list to write randomly on blank game cards. For more advanced students or large student groups, include all 200 spelling words on the word list. This will increase the level of difficulty and decrease the probability of students having similar cards. The goal is that students learn to spell these words correctly and read them without hesitation.



Bingo Card

B	I	N	G	O

What Are the Other Kids Doing While You Teach Small Groups? © 1997 Creative Teaching Press

Word List

B	I	N	G	O
B	I	N	G	O
B	I	N	G	O
B	I	N	G	O
B	I	N	G	O
B	I	N	G	O
B	I	N	G	O
B	I	N	G	O
B	I	N	G	O

Sample Word List

B	I	N	G	O
B the	I he	N be	G is	O they
B of	I for	N this	G you	O at
B and	I was	N from	G that	O by
B a	I on	N I	G it	O one
B to	I are	N have	G with	O had
B in	I as	N or	G his	O not
B but	I what	N all	G were	O when
B we	I there	N can	G an	O your