

Language Arts Activities

Using Colorful Cut-Outs™



Bonus:

Ready-to-use
preprinted
cut-outs!

(See inside back cover.)

Includes:

- Skills matrix
- Pretests and posttests
- Leveled activities
- Whole-group or small-group adaptations
- Reproducible cut-outs

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Introduction

Welcome to *Language Arts Activities Using Colorful Cut-Outs™*!

Within this book, there are more than 40 activities that will help students practice important language arts skills while interacting with each other. Not only will students have fun doing the activities in this book, but they will also learn. *Language Arts Activities Using Colorful Cut-Outs™* includes activities that focus on using good descriptive words; listening for rhyming words; identifying beginning, ending, and middle consonants, vowels, blends, and digraphs; and many more. A Skills Matrix (pages 9–10) has been included so that teachers can easily correlate the skills in each activity to daily classroom lessons.

Teachers will enjoy the easy preparation and minimal supplies required. Each easy-to-assemble activity uses sturdy Colorful Cut-Outs™ that will motivate and actively engage students. Carson-Dellosa's Colorful Cut-Outs™ are available in a variety of shapes and themes so that teachers can tailor each activity to their classroom needs. This book also includes several reproducible cut-outs to enlarge and copy on sturdy, colorful card stock. Reproducible cut-outs can be used for any of the activities in this book or as take-home pieces to encourage students to practice challenging skills outside the classroom. Easy assembly instructions and step-by-step activity directions are provided for each activity, and the durable cut-outs can be used over and over again, year after year. The activities in this book are versatile and easy to use for any classroom need—whole-group, small-group, centers, or take-home practice.

Organization

Language Arts Activities Using Colorful Cut-Outs™ was written with the busy classroom teacher in mind. In addition to the easy reference of the skills matrix, each type of activity in this book is coded with an icon (see box), and many of the activities include three different levels of difficulty from which to choose. Students can use the novice level cards (each coded with a ●) when they are starting a new skill, the apprentice level cards (each coded with a ▲) as they gain confidence, and the expert level cards (each coded with a ■) when they are ready for a challenge. In many cases, the cards can be mixed together to expand the activity and include more students. The icon on each activity card makes it quick and easy to sort the cards into levels after using them together. Teachers can also prepare a set of cards for each level and keep them separated for leveled centers.

Activity Icons



Bag It Activities



Living Lineup Activities



Musical Chairs Activities



Attribute Bag It Activities



Toss It Activities



Search Activities



Preparation and Materials

Most of the activities in this book require nothing more than a set of Colorful Cut-Outs™ and a copy machine. Each Bag It activity also requires one colorful gift bag. (You can use a simple brown paper bag instead; however, a handled gift bag is more festive, sturdier, and can be easily transported throughout the room.) Each Toss It activity requires one or two large cubes—either inflatable cubes or homemade cubes using the directions on page 8. Almost all additional required supplies are items that teachers already have, such as pencils, paper, and resealable plastic bags.

When preparing an activity, simply copy the activity cards, cut them apart, and attach them to the cut-outs. If desired, laminate and cut out the assembled cut-outs for extra durability. Store them according to the directions provided.

Variations

Before beginning any activity, explain the directions and practice a few examples with students. When students understand the activity, it can be adapted for whole-group, small-group, or center lessons, depending on classroom needs. For whole-group activities, have students work in pairs or groups of three so that more students can be involved in each round. Or, where possible, divide students into small groups and encourage them to work together to complete each activity. The activities in this book are perfect for center use and encourage independent learning because answers are printed on the right-hand side of each activity card when there is a definite answer available. (Some activities ask for students' opinions, so answers will vary.)

Evaluation and Assessment

Evaluating students' needs and assessing their skill mastery is easy with the pretests and posttests that are provided in this book. Before beginning an activity, make copies of the pretest and posttest for each student and cut them apart. Give students time to take the pretest and encourage them to do their best even if they are not sure about an answer or how to complete a task. Then, have students complete the activity. Repeat as needed to allow students to practice the skill. (*Note:* The activities in this book are not intended to teach skills, only to provide skill practice. Students may need additional instruction.) After students have practiced the skill using the activity and additional lessons as needed, administer the posttest. If some students still struggle with the skill, prepare a take-home version of the activity so that students can practice at home. If several students are still struggling, repeat the activity on another day so that students can continue group practice.



Sort, Sort, Sort

Programming Instructions

Three levels of activity cards have been provided. The Novice Level (page 13) requires students to look at pairs of pictures, decide why they go together, and think of another item that fits in the same category. The Apprentice Level (page 14) requires students to listen to lists of words, decide why they go together, and think of another item that fits in the same category. The Expert Level (page 15) requires students to listen to more complex lists of words, decide why they go together, and think of another item that fits in the same category. Select an activity level. For a challenge, mix the levels together. Copy and cut apart the activity cards and attach each one to the back of a Colorful Cut-Out™. Decorate the front of a colorful gift bag with an extra cut-out from the set and attach the Bag It! Label (page 13, 14, or 15). Copy and cut out the activity directions (below) and attach them to the back of the bag. Place the cut-outs inside the bag. Assess students' skill mastery using the Pretest and Posttest (page 16).

Objectives

Students will look at pictures or listen to lists of words, determine why they go together, and think of another item or word that fits in the same category.

Activity Directions

1. Shuffle the programmed cut-outs and place them in the bag.
2. Have a student take a cut-out from the bag.
Apprentice and Expert Levels: Have the student give the cut-out to you.
3. Novice Level: Have the student show the pictures to classmates and identify the items aloud.
Apprentice and Expert Levels: Read the challenge aloud to the whole group. (If students are able, allow them to read the cut-outs aloud.)
4. Have each student take a moment to think of the category and an addition to the category and whisper his answer to a neighbor.
5. The student who selected the cut-out should answer aloud. Other students should each show a thumbs-up if they agree. If desired, select other students to suggest additions to the category, as well.
6. Set aside the cut-out and let another student take a turn. The activity continues until all of the cut-outs have been used or all students have taken turns.
7. When the activity is complete, store the cut-outs in the bag.

Sort, Sort, Sort

1. One student should take a cut-out from the bag. If it has pictures, he should show it to the group. If it has words, he should give it to a teacher.
2. If the cut-out has words, the teacher reads the challenge aloud to the group.
Or, the student can read the words.
3. Each student should take a moment to think of the category and something else that goes in the category and whisper his answer to a neighbor.
4. The student who selected the cut-out should answer aloud. Other students should each show a thumbs-up if they agree.
5. Set aside the cut-out and pass the bag to another student to take a turn. The activity continues until all of the cut-outs have been used or all students have taken turns.
6. When the activity is complete, store the cut-outs in the bag.





BAG IT!

Sort, Sort, Sort

	category: fruit		category: clothing
	category: school tools		category: shapes
	category: farm animals		category: pets
	category: vehicles		category: vegetables
	category: community helpers		category: zoo animals



BAG IT!

Sort, Sort, Sort

▲ ten four two	category: numbers	▲ daisy sunflower violet	category: flowers
▲ Thursday Monday Saturday	category: days of the week	▲ desk bed table	category: furniture
▲ ruler paper pencil	category: school tools	▲ January April May	category: months
▲ red green black	category: colors	▲ apple grapes pear	category: fruit
▲ cauliflower green beans corn	category: vegetables	▲ cow pig horse	category: farm animals





BAG IT!

Sort, Sort, Sort

■ tennis football basketball	category: sports	■ parrot owl robin	category: birds
■ ant ladybug bee	category: insects	■ chalk marker pen	category: writing tools
■ chipmunk deer raccoon	category: forest animals	■ mother sister uncle	category: family members
■ microwave toaster oven	category: kitchen appliances	■ ice cream cupcake pie	category: desserts
■ whale shark crab	category: ocean animals	■ period comma apostrophe	category: punctuation



Name: _____ Date: _____

Sort, Sort, Sort Pretest



Fill in each blank with a word that fits in the category.

Word Bank

duck purple foot chair seven

1. red, blue, green, _____

2. two, four, nine, _____

3. hand, leg, arm, _____



Name: _____ Date: _____

Sort, Sort, Sort Posttest



Fill in each blank with a word that fits in the category.

Word Bank

spinach bus house button horse

1. goat, cow, pig, _____

2. train, car, jet, _____

3. peas, corn, potatoes, _____

Answer Key

Sort, Sort, Sort page 16

PRETEST

1. purple
2. seven
3. foot

POSTTEST

1. horse
2. bus
3. spinach

Rhyme Time page 24

PRETEST

1. test
2. stay
3. fall

POSTTEST

1. sight
2. glad
3. bell

What's the Missing Letter? page 29

PRETEST

1. h
2. d
3. i

POSTTEST

1. o
2. b
3. t

Do You Know Nursery Rhymes? page 32

PRETEST

1. on a tuffet
2. a spider
3. It frightened her away.

POSTTEST

1. sheep and a cow
2. look after the sheep
(or blow his horn)
3. sleeping under the haystack

Fun with Fairy Tales page 36

PRETEST

1. He says she can spin straw into gold.
2. He spins the gold for her.
3. She will have to give him her baby.

POSTTEST

1. She finds three bowls of porridge.
2. She chooses the baby bear's bed.
3. The baby bear finds her in his bed.

Listening for Sounds page 41

PRETEST

1. a
2. c
3. b

POSTTEST

1. c
2. a
3. b

Be an Expert: Short Vowels page 45

PRETEST

Answers will vary, but may include:

1. b
2. j
3. ch
4. sp
5. t
6. r

POSTTEST

Answers will vary, but may include:

1. st
2. c
3. d
4. b
5. dr
6. cl

Be an Expert: Long Vowels page 49

PRETEST

Answers will vary, but may include:

1. sk
2. n
3. fl
4. m
5. c
6. wh

POSTTEST

Answers will vary, but may include:

1. fl
2. d
3. b
4. w
5. br
6. m

Stop That Sentence page 59

PRETEST

1. b
2. c
3. a

POSTTEST

1. a
2. c
3. b

Editing for Capitalization page 63

PRETEST

1. Karen
2. We
3. Sometimes; Sammy's
4. Karen's; Claire

POSTTEST

1. Tony's
2. Midland, Ohio
3. Friday; Dad
4. Pete; I

Who, What, When, Where, Why page 68

PRETEST

Answers will vary.

POSTTEST

Answers will vary.