

7/13/25

Addables

Estimated play time: Approximately 15 minutes

Number of players: Unlimited

Supplies needed: Large pad or white board; noisemakers; pencil and paper for each player (or team).

Overview:

Addables is a combination of the words **Add** and **Scramble**. The goal is to make as many new words as possible by adding one letter to the given letters. Take, for example, the given word *RUG*. Each correct answer will be four letters long and must use the letters *R-U-G*, plus one additional letter. The four letters can be rearranged in any order, so possible answers include: BURG, DRUG, FRUG, GRUB, GURU, RUGS, RUNG, URGE. (Other, more obscure answers are possible.)

We have also included a “success scale” for players to consider. In the above example for *RUG*, the success scale is 3 out of 8, which means that if you get three correct answers, you are doing well. Get more, and you’re an Addable Expert! The second number indicates the total number of common English words we found for that question.

Putting a time limit on games makes them a more robust brain exercise. Give your players one or two minutes to come up with as many answers as they can.

Instructions:

1. This game can be played by individuals or in teams.
2. Write the first word on a large pad or white board. Read and spell the word aloud. Discussion is permitted among teammates. Prior to the start of the game, a method to signal when a player/team is ready to answer must be determined. Ringing bells and New Year’s blowers are just two inexpensive noisemakers. Raised hands work, but the host must be vigilant to watch for whose hand went up first. The host always has the final say in any disputes.
3. After a player/team is recognized as the first to signal, they may give an answer. If the first answer is incorrect, the others may ‘buzz’ in and answer.
4. Keep score (10 points for each answer) after each question is answered.

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QUESTIONS

1. FAR (5 OUT OF 13)
2. BRA (8 OUT OF 18)
3. LID (5 OUT OF 13)
4. PART (4 OUT OF 9)
5. STOP (6 OUT OF 15)

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ANSWERS

(Other, more obscure, answers are possible.)

1. AFAR, AFRO, ARFS, BARF, FAIR, FARE, FARM, FARO, FART, FEAR, FRAT, FRAY, RAFT
2. BARB, BARD, BARE, BARF, BARK, BARN, BARS, BEAR, BOAR, BRAD, BRAG, BRAN, BRAS, BRAT, BRAY, CRAB, DRAB, GARB
3. DELI, DIAL, DILL, GILD, IDLE, IDLY, IDOL, LAID, LIDS, LIED, MILD, SLID, WILD
4. APART, PARTS, PARTY, STRAP, TAPER, TAPIR, TARPS, TRAMP, TRAPS
5. PESTO, PLOTS, POETS, PORTS, POSIT, POSTS, POUTS, SPORT, SPOTS, SPOUT, STOMP, STOOP, STOPS, STROP, TYPOS