

8/17/25

# Counting Syllables

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Estimated play time: Approximately 15 minutes

Number of players: Unlimited

Supplies needed: Scoring board/pad; noisemakers

Suitable for visually impaired players.

## Overview:

You probably know that a syllable is defined as a “unit of pronunciation that has one vowel sound with or without consonants.” For example, *eager* has two syllables (*ea•ger*); *injury* has three syllables (*in•ju•ry*); and *brick* has only one syllable.

In this game, players need to provide answers by the number of syllables they have. For example: *Name the two Brady Bunch kids with one-syllable first names.* Answer: *Jan* and *Greg*

## Instructions:

1. This game can be played by individuals or in teams.
2. Read the first clue. 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 correctly. Play until all questions have been asked and answered.

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**INSTRUCTIONS:** In this game, the number of syllables in the answer is critical. For example:  
*Name the two Brady Bunch kids with one-syllable first names. Answer: Jan and Greg.*

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## QUESTIONS

1. Name the three months of the year with two-syllable names.
2. What are the six US state names that have five syllables each?
3. Name four vegetables with one syllable names.
4. Name five of the nine US presidents whose last names have one syllable.
5. Name four types of pasta with four-syllable names.
6. Name the only letter in the English alphabet with more than one syllable.
7. Name four car companies that have two-syllable names.
8. Name six colors with one-syllable names.

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## ANSWERS

*(In many cases, other correct answers are possible.)*

1. April, July, August
2. California, Louisiana, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, West Virginia
3. Bean, Beets, Chard, Corn, Kale, Leek, Pea, Squash, Yam
4. Bush (George H.W.), Bush (George W.), Ford, Grant, Hayes, Pierce, Polk, Taft, Trump
5. Fettuccine, Macaroni, Manicotti, Orecchiette (or•ick•KET•tay), Ravioli, Rigatoni, Spaghettini, Tagliatelle (tal•yah•TELL•eh), Tortellini, Tortelloni, Vermicelli
6. W
7. Audi, Buick, Chrysler, Fiat, Honda, Jaguar, Kia, Lexus, Lincoln, Lotus, Mazda, Nissan, Opel, Peugeot, Plymouth, Rambler, Rolls-Royce, Rover, Saturn, Tesla, Volvo
8. Beige, Black, Blue, Brass, Bronze, Brown, Gold, Grape, Gray, Green, Jade, Lime, Mauve, Peach, Pink, Plum, Puce, Red, Rose, Rust, Silver, Tan, Taupe, Teal, White