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Syllable Round Robin

Approximate play time: 15 minutes (depending on the number of players)

Number of Players: Unlimited

Supplies Needed: Colored 8x5 cards.

This is a fun, brain-exercising game. Give each player a colored 8x5 card. Tell them to hold it up (comfortably) and to keep holding it up until they are “out” of the game.

In the first round, each player in turn has to say a one-syllable word out loud. The first player’s word starts with the letter *A*, the second player’s word starts with the letter *B*, the third *C*, and so on, until all players have said a one-syllable word.

(Depending on the abilities of your players, you might choose to exclude some letters, such as *K*, *X*, *Y*, and *Z*.) If you have more players than letters of the alphabet, just start with *A* again, until all players have said a one-syllable word.

If someone fails to come up with a word for their letter, they are out of the game and should stop holding up their colored card. The next player starts on the letter that stumped the previous player.

The second round is the same as the first, except that two-syllable words are now required; the third round uses three-syllable words; and so on until only one player is left holding up a colored card. (Note: This gets hard at three syllables, and *very* hard at four or more!)

Helpful Note: As more syllables are required, you might want to remind players that endings such as *-ing*, *-ness*, *-er*, *-ly*, *-able*, *-ability*, etc., help to extend a word. For example, the word *frustrate* can become *frustrating* and *frustratingly*; or the word *predict* can become *predictable* and *predictability*. There are also prefixes to consider, such as *con-*, *in-*, *un-*, *pre-*, *anti-*, *mis-*, *over-*, *under-*, etc. The word *date*, for example, can become *predate* and *predated*; and the word *under* can become *understand*, *misunderstand*, and *misunderstanding*.

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Example Round One:

ART, BAT, CAR, DOG, EGG, FIGHT, GONE, etc.

Example Round Two:

APPLE, BABOON, CANDY, DUSTY, EARLOBE, FISHING, GARDEN, etc.

Example Round Three:

ARTICLE, BORDERLINE, CHARMINGLY, DELETED, ENDLESSLY, FANTASTIC, GASOLINE, etc.

Example Round Four:

ACTUALLY, BIOLOGY, CHEMICALLY, DISCONNECTED, ENLIGHTENMENT, FASCINATING, GENERATION, etc.