

Stop

by Maria Toth

Age: Primary (6–11)

Language aim: To talk about the past

Time: 15 minutes

Student grouping: Groups of four

Materials: One copy of Worksheets 1 and 2 per group of four children (cut up into cards)

Language focus: *Last weekend, I ... watched television ... stayed in bed, at home ... went to the funfair, circus, cinema, park, supermarket ... read a book, a comic, a newspaper ... played football, basketball, tennis, table tennis.*

Aim of the game: To lay down all the cards in your hand by calling the actions indicated in the pictures

Example: Child A has laid down the *Last weekend, I played football* card. Child B follows by laying down a *Last weekend, I played basketball* card. Child C does not have a *play* card in their hand and decides to lay down a *Stop* card, followed immediately by a new action card, e.g. *Last weekend, I read a book*. Child D can either follow with a *Last weekend, I read a ...* card or they can change the verb by playing a *Stop* card.

Step 4

The game continues until one of the players has laid down all the cards in their hand. That student is the winner.

Warmer

Ask the class what they did last weekend. Write their answers up on the board. Make groups of four children by asking children who did the same things last weekend to sit together. (This may not work out exactly, so you may need to move some children into different groups.)

Playing the game

Step 1

Hand out a set of cards (from both Worksheets 1 and 2) to each group of four children. One member of each group is the dealer. That student shuffles the cards together and deals them all out around the group.

Step 2

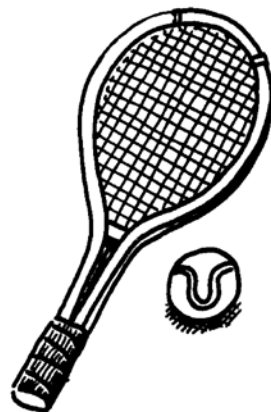
The dealer starts the game by laying down a card and making a sentence about it, e.g. 'Last weekend, I played football.'

Step 3

The next child must now lay down either another *played* card (e.g. 'I played tennis') or a *Stop* card, which enables them to change the verb to something else, e.g. 'I read a book.'

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YOUNG LEARNERS

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