

Family card game

by Jackie Holderness & Annie Hughes

Level 2 • Beginner–Elementary

Age: Primary (6–11)

Language aims: To practise reading names in English; to practise playing a card game in English; to use the language of games

Time: 20–30 minutes

Student grouping: Small groups

Materials: One copy of the worksheet for every three or four students; an extra copy of the worksheet, with cards cut out; multiple pairs of scissors

Language focus: *I've won; shuffle, mix up, cards; daughter, son; John, Ann, Olivia, Harry, Betty; mother, father, sister, brother, daughter, son, grandmother*

- Each player in turn then picks up a card from pile 1 or 2 and decides if they want to keep it. If so, they throw away one of their cards. If not, they throw this one back (onto pile 2).
- The first player to get three the same shouts 'Family!' They then show their cards to the rest of the group and describe the cards, for example 'Three sons' or 'Harry Brown, Olivia Brown and Betty Brown.'

The class now plays the game in their groups.

Follow-up activity

Play the game with five cards each. The first player to get five cards the same wins.

Procedure

Step 1

Teach *mother, father, sister, brother, daughter, son* and *grandmother* by drawing a stick family on the board and eliciting the vocabulary.

Step 2

Teach *I've won, cards, mix up the cards* and *shuffle* using a set of cards.

Step 3

Put children in groups of three or four and give each group a worksheet. The students cut out the cards.

Step 4

Tell the class they are going to play a 'family collection' card game. Show them how to play by demonstrating with two or three children. The aim of the game is to get three matching characters, for example three mothers, three sons or three members of the same family.

- Shuffle a set of cards.
- Give each player three cards face down. The rest of the cards are put face down in the middle of the table (pile 1). The players pick up their three cards and look at them.
- The first player starts by deciding which card to throw away, remembering that they are trying to collect three the same. They put it face up on the table (pile 2) and pick up a card from pile 1. This is the end of their turn.

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John v



Ann Jones



Olivia Jones



Harry Jones



Betty Jones



John Smith



Ann Smith



Olivia Smith



Harry Smith



Betty Smith



John Brown



Ann Brown



Olivia Brown



Harry Brown



Betty Brown



John Taylor



Ann Taylor



Olivia Taylor



Harry Taylor



Betty Taylor



John Evans



Ann Evans



Olivia Evans



Harry Evans



Betty Evans