

Buckets of Fun

Introduction: It may sound simple, but some students have a hard time remembering the “vocabulary of school.” This activity gives students a chance to practice categorizing this “vocabulary” while getting busy on the playground.

Grade Level and Subject: 1st Grade Language Arts and P.E.

TEKS: Language Arts – 4A
P.E. – 1B, 1D, 3A, 7A, 7B

Materials: Note cards, four buckets

Activity: After spending some time practicing the “vocabulary of school” (words that fall in the categories of colors, directions, numbers, and shapes), the students will be ready to complete this activity.

Before beginning the activity, the teacher needs to create the category buckets and note cards. To make the category buckets, the teacher should label four large buckets with these words: numbers, shapes, colors, directions. The teacher might want to write these words on at least two sides of the bucket so the students can easily see the labels. Also, the teacher needs to make note cards with familiar number, shape, color, and direction words on them.

To begin the activity, the teacher will take the students to the playground. Each student should receive at least five to six note cards with words from the four categories on them.

On a starting signal, the students are to run to the appropriate buckets and place the cards in them. Then the students will run back to their starting positions. Once all of the cards have been distributed into the buckets, the teacher will retrieve the cards from the buckets and check them for accuracy. The teacher can re-teach the concept/word at this time if necessary. When all of the cards have been checked, the teacher will mix them up and redistribute them to the students. Play will continue in the same manner.

The teacher might want to suggest different locomotive skills that the students are to do as they move between the four buckets. Some different movements include skipping, galloping, hopping, jumping on one foot, etc.

Evaluation: The teacher will want to check the note cards in the buckets for correctness. He or she will also monitor game play for safety purposes.



CANCER PREVENTION &
RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF TEXAS