

Antonym/Synonym Shuffle

Purpose & SOL

- Students will review the differences and characteristics of synonyms and antonyms.
- Language Arts 3.4b, 4.4b

Materials

- Antonym/Synonym Cards, 1 set for every pair of students. Make your own or there are many options on Teachers Pay Teachers <https://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Product/Synonym-Antonym-Word-Sort-Activity-for-Grades-2-3-4-Literacy-Station-478724>
- One desk per pair
- Optional: cones for each team if you would like to end the game with a relay.

Length
20 min.

Introduction

Review synonyms and antonyms with the students. Ask students to describe antonyms and synonyms. Teach them the exercise associated with each: synonyms - 5 squats with a clap and antonyms - 5 hops with one arm up and one arm down. Say two words, students perform an exercise to answer if the words are synonyms or antonyms.

Implementation

Sort

- 1) Divide students in groups of 2 and give each pair of students a set of cards. Have them place the synonyms header on the left and the antonym header on the right. Then, ask them to place all of the leftover cards down the middle so that both partners can see the cards.
- 2) Assign one partner as the synonym partner and one partner as the antonym partner.
- 3) Call words and ask students to sort it. If they decide the words are synonyms, then the synonyms partner places it in their column and vice versa. The pair will do the exercise representing their answer.
- 4) When children are done sorting, asking someone to explain where the where the word pair belongs. As a class, complete the exercise together.
- 5) Continue until all of the cards are sorted.

Cool Down

At the end of the game, play a silent game of *Simon Says*. Lead students through various stretches. Such as, “Simon says fold forward and take 4 deep breaths.”

Modifications

Play the game as a relay race and make the groups a larger size.

