



Instructions for playing Root Bingo

Print the word pieces and clues found on the Dynamic Literacy website. There are 5 sets of bingo games, one for each five consecutive roots in Elements Level 1.

Copy the words page onto card stock (probably 10 copies) and cut along the lines. The students each get 15-25 word cards. Copy the word + definition list onto card stock and cut into strips along the lines. Each student will find a copy of the board in his or her Student Activity Book.

Before play begins, each student is dealt 15-25 word cards, grouped to ensure that each student receives approximately the same number of cards for each root. It is most convenient to have the player's cards sorted into envelopes beforehand.

The first task for the students is to sort their cards into meaning families based on a common root. This will make play easier and focus the students on the instructional point of the game. Using the set of word + definition strips, the teacher aide or a student volunteer randomly picks and calls out the different words and reads their definitions one at a time.

If a player has the word that is called, she or he can place that card in one of the spaces on his or her board in the proper root column. To make the game more challenging, once a card is played, it cannot be moved. To make the game go more quickly, allow players to move cards within the proper columns.

If a player gets all the spaces in a horizontal, vertical or diagonal line, she or he calls "BINGO". To record a win, the student must read the winning row of words out loud and give their definitions. This will tend to keep the focus of the learners on the meanings of the words and particularly the common meanings within one root family. Encourage students to write down the exact definitions of words they play on their game board.

Collect all the pieces and use them again!