

Backwards and Opposites ~ sdrawkcab dna setisoppo

Players: two or more (or one with a referee), in teams or individually, or as a free-for-all

Materials needed: index cards fine tip markers, and pencils

To play: Decide on a “guessing” time limit (ie., 15 or 30 seconds) that all players will have to de-code and read the word. Play can happen in teams or as individual players.

Show the backward version of the word to the first player/team. The player has up to the time limit to figure out the word. (Elect a scorekeeper, if desired). He/she says the word aloud, and, if correct, wins one point for that round. The referee can keep score, or the player/team can keep the card to signify one point.

The game is finished when all the words have been decoded. The player or group with the most solved words wins.

Group play: “open the floor” to guessing and present the back-word to the whole group. The first person to call out the word correctly wins that card and gets one point.

Variations

Interactive version: Give each player a marker and a pencil, along with two index cards. Players can choose a word for each index card (write the backwards version in black marker on one side, and the correct version in pencil on the other side). The player then becomes the referee for those two words and presents them for group play.

Encourage players not to use proper nouns or words with capital letters. Also encourage them to “write the word out first” frontward, and then copy it backward, from left to right.