

2. Charades *Thinking and Motion Game with Go Fish Cards or Memory Cards

Age Level: For all Ages. If the student cannot yet read, the teacher can tell him about the card.

Players form 2 teams. Teams can have up to 20 people per team.

Skills Taught: Memorization, Deductive Thinking, Analysis, Social Skills, Cooperation, Teamwork, Physical Coordination, Sportsmanship

Preparation To Play: 1. The teacher chooses two categories to explain. At the beginning of the year, start with Category 1 and 2. At each subsequent meeting, go on to the next categories. Each team should have its own deck of cards to look at during the explanation from the teacher. Direct each team to take the four cards from the designated category out of the deck. The teacher takes out the four cards from the same category. She then holds a card up and directs the students to find this card and place it face up on the desk. The teacher then reads out loud the paragraph from the end of this booklet that explains this card. The teacher does the same for all cards from the two categories. Note: if you have very young children, you might just use one category, instead of two. For this game, only use the cards that have been explained. As you continue to meet, add in other categories, until you have explained all the cards. 2. Most likely, your students will have never played charades before, and you will have to teach them some basics of sign language. Tell students that Mimics are not allowed to say any words. The first thing the Mimic does is show with his fingers how many words are in the answer. Once his team shouts out the correct number, the Mimic nods yes and moves on. Through acting out what is on the card, the teammates make guesses. If the Mimic grabs his ear, this means, "Sounds like." The Mimic will then act out something that sounds like the word that is on the card. This is done if the card is especially hard.

To Play: Students are broken into teams. The cards the teacher has explained are placed face down in a single deck. One person from one team begins the game by choosing the top card from the deck. Then, the teacher says, "Go," and the Mimic has 60 seconds to act out what or who is on the card. Only the Mimic's team is allowed to guess by shouting out loud. The other students are watching and thinking. If the team guesses correctly, the team earns 2 points. After the 60 seconds are up, if the Mimic's team is unable to guess the card, the other teams then write the answer down. The Mimic then reads out loud the card, and whichever team has the correct answer receives a point. Then, the next team gets a chance.

To Win: The team with the most points wins. If students are playing in teams over an extended period of time, then the winning team moves its token two spaces on the game board, and the other team moves its token one space.

American Cards Explained

Important Documents

Card 4A Declaration of Independence

On July 4, 1776, the Second Continental Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence. This document, written primarily by Thomas Jefferson, is one of the most important English documents in the history of man. It does two things. First, it declares that God gave all people in the world natural rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. This means that man's rights come from God and that no person or government can rightfully take them away. Second, the declaration announces to the world the birth of the United States of America and its break from Great Britain.

Card 4B The Constitution

The United States Constitution was ratified in 1789. It is the oldest written constitution still in use in the world. The Constitution establishes a federal government that separates power into three branches: the legislative, executive, and judicial branches. American Founding Fathers believed that men were naturally selfish and would try to obtain more power when possible. The three branches were created to make sure that one person, or one group, would never become too powerful. The Constitution also assigns different responsibilities and powers to the federal and state governments, a system called federalism.

Card 4C The Mayflower Compact

The Mayflower Compact is the first self-written governing document in North America. Some have called this "America's first Constitution." When the Pilgrims came to America in 1620, they were supposed to join Jamestown in Virginia. However, a storm forced them to land in America far to the north, in a place they named Plymouth Colony (in present-day Massachusetts). While still on board the *Mayflower*, the Pilgrims wrote the Mayflower Compact, and signed it, thus pledging allegiance to God and to the King of England.

Card 4D The Emancipation Proclamation

In 1863, in the middle of the American Civil War, Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation, an order that freed all of the slaves in the Confederate States of America (the rebelling states or the South). This Emancipation decree encouraged those against slavery, known as abolitionists, to support Lincoln and the North in the Civil War. When the northern army invaded the South and conquered territory, many slaves ran away from their owners and obtained freedom.