LESSON MAKER PRO

Word Clue Cards

Use clues to test what a word means.

GRADE 7 · 7.VL.29

7.VL.29 "Determine word meaning through the use of word parts, context clues, connotation and denotation, or print or digital reference tools."

NAME _____ **DATE** _____

OUR GROUND RULES Read together first

1. Use details from the TOPIC card as evidence.
2. Let each person finish before you respond.
3. Do not guess what a dictionary says. Check it if one is available.
4. You may agree, see things differently, or keep a view the evidence supports.

HOW TO PLAY Teams of 3 or 4

1. Choose one TOPIC card and read it aloud.
2. Each player takes a ROLE card. With three players, everyone shares the fourth role, Proof Scout.
3. Shuffle two copies of the eight MOVE cards. Deal four to each player and set a six-minute timer.
4. Discuss the topic. Play a MOVE card only when you finish its starter with a real idea or clue. Keep unused cards.
5. Stop when the timer ends. Say what you agree on, what is still open, or what supported view stayed the same. Then check the reflection statements.

AFTER THE ROUND Check what you did

- [ ] I used a word part to help work out a meaning.
- [ ] I used a detail from the topic to check a meaning.
- [ ] I thought about a word's plain meaning and the feeling it gives.
- [ ] I said what the evidence supports, even if my view stayed the same.

Cut along the dashed lines

TOPIC CARDS · pick one per round

TOPIC

Field Day Signs

For field day, you make reusable signs that can go up again next year instead of being tossed out. What does reusable mean here, and would calling the signs old give the same impression?

TOPIC

Group Chat Mix-up

Eli misread the message 'Meet at six' as 'Meet at seven' and arrived late. What does misread mean here, and is careless a fair way to describe Eli based on what you know?

TOPIC

Library Display

Your class calls a library display inviting because its bright signs make people want to stop and look. What does inviting mean here, and how might calling the display flashy change the impression?

ROLE CARDS · one per player

ROLE

Part Finder

Look for word parts that help explain the word in your topic.

ROLE

Clue Catcher

Point out details in the topic that support or challenge a meaning.

ROLE

Tone Tester

Check both what a word means and the feeling it may give.

ROLE

Proof Scout

Check a dictionary if one is available and notice which ideas have evidence.

MOVE CARDS · deal 4 to each player

MOVE CARD

FIND A PART

"A part of the word that helps me is ____."

MOVE CARD

BUILD A MEANING

"When I put the word parts together, I get ____."

MOVE CARD

SPOT A CLUE

"The detail that helps me is ____."

MOVE CARD

TEST THE CLUE

"That detail points to this meaning: ____."

MOVE CARD

PLAIN MEANING

"The word's plain meaning here is ____."

MOVE CARD

COMPARE FEELINGS

"The other word changes the feeling because ____."

MOVE CARD

CHECK A SOURCE

"I checked a dictionary entry, and it says ____."

MOVE CARD

SUM UP

"Our evidence shows ____."

Cards last longer on thick paper.

Word Clue Cards

RUNNING THE ROUNDS

Run a six-minute round for each chosen topic; students may keep cards they cannot use honestly, including the dictionary card when no reference tool is available. For uneven participation, invite a quieter player to share a clue without requiring a card play. Accept full agreement, an unresolved difference, or an unchanged position when students can support it with evidence.

WHAT A STRONG ROUND SOUNDS LIKE

Maya	A part of the word that helps me is re-, which means 'again.'
Jon	The detail that helps me is that the signs can go up again next year.
Leah	The word's plain meaning here is 'able to be used again.'
Omar	The other word changes the feeling because old tells us about the signs' age, not whether we can use them again.
Maya	Our evidence shows that we agree reusable fits signs we can use again, while old does not tell us that.

LISTEN FOR

- A word part linked to a possible meaning, not just named
- A detail from the topic used to test a meaning
- A distinction between plain meaning and the impression a word gives
- A dictionary result reported accurately, or a conclusion limited to the evidence available

There are no right answers to the topic cards. Score the moves students make, not their opinions.