

Step Chain Challenge

Build clear directions, one spoken step at a time.

GRADE 4 • TEKS 4.1.B

4.1.B "follow, restate, and give oral instructions that involve a series of related sequences of action;"

NAME _____

DATE _____

OUR GROUND RULES Read together first

1 Listen before you speak.

2 Use a card only when its starter fits.

3 Say one clear action at a time.

4 Build one connected set of directions.

HOW TO PLAY Teams of 3 or 4

1. Pick a Topic card and name the task your group will explain.
2. Each player takes one Role card. Set aside any extra Role cards, then deal four Move cards to each player, using duplicate copies as needed.
3. Say one first action together so everyone knows how the directions begin.
4. Take turns using a Move card starter in a full sentence. When your sentence fits, place that card in the middle.
5. Use your role while you listen. The round ends when every Move card is in the middle, then check the reflection statements.

AFTER THE ROUND Check what you did

☐ I restated an action I heard.

☐ I gave a clear next step.

☐ I asked about the order of actions.

☐ I helped make the directions connect.

**TOPIC CARDS** · pick one per round

TOPIC	TOPIC	TOPIC
Backpack Ready Make oral directions for packing a backpack for a school day.	Art Table Cleanup Make oral directions for cleaning up a table after painting.	Handwashing Steps Make oral directions for washing your hands after recess.

ROLE CARDS · one per player

ROLE	ROLE	ROLE	ROLE
Order Owl Listen for whether the actions are in a sensible order.	Step Spotter Listen for one clear action in each direction.	Echo Expert Listen for an action that someone can restate.	Turn Guide Make sure each player has time to use a Move card.

MOVE CARDS · deal 4 to each player

MOVE CARD GIVE STEP “We should ____.”	MOVE CARD GIVE STEP “We should ____.”	MOVE CARD ADD NEXT “After ____, we should ____.”	MOVE CARD ADD NEXT “After ____, we should ____.”
MOVE CARD RESTATE STEP “I heard that we should ____.”	MOVE CARD RESTATE STEP “I heard that we should ____.”	MOVE CARD CHECK ORDER “Does ____ happen before ____?”	MOVE CARD CHECK ORDER “Does ____ happen before ____?”

Print one card sheet per team. Cards last longer on thick paper.

RUNNING THE ROUNDS

Print enough copies of the Move cards so each player receives four cards. Every starter can fit more than once in one sequence, so duplicate copies do not require a second first step. For uneven participation, have the Turn Guide call on a player who has spoken less, and allow the group to pause and name another action when a player needs a connection.

WHAT A STRONG ROUND SOUNDS LIKE

Mia	We should put the homework folder in the backpack.
Noah	After putting the homework folder in the backpack, we should add the pencil case.
Ava	I heard that we should add the pencil case after the homework folder.
Leo	Does adding the pencil case happen before zipping the backpack?
Mia	After adding the pencil case, we should zip the backpack.

LISTEN FOR

- Accurate restating of an action another student named
- Before and after language that connects actions
- One clear action given in each direction
- Questions that check or improve the order of steps

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