

Word Choice Circle

Use clues, word parts, and precise choices to build a group message.

GRADE 4 • 4.RV

4.RV "The student will systematically build vocabulary and word knowledge based on grade-four content and texts. Vocabulary Development and Word Analysis Develop general academic language and content specific vocabulary by listening to, reading..."

NAME _____

DATE _____

OUR GROUND RULES Read together first

1 Take turns speaking and listen to every speaker.

2 Use the full sentence starter before you play a card.

3 Play a card only when it truly fits the topic.

4 Help the group explain each word choice with evidence.

HOW TO PLAY Teams of 3 or 4

1. Choose one Topic Card and place it where everyone can read it.
2. Each player chooses one Role Card and reads the job aloud.
3. Deal each player four Move Cards. Use extra printed copies of the Move Cards if needed.
4. Take turns using one Move Card starter to add an idea about the topic, then place that card in the middle.
5. Keep talking until every player has played all four cards. Then check the reflection statements.

AFTER THE ROUND Check what you did

☐ I used clues from words or the situation to infer a meaning.

☐ I used a root, prefix, suffix, or ending to think about a word.

☐ I compared precise word choices, synonyms, or antonyms.

☐ I explained a homophone choice or named a tool that could check a word.

**TOPIC CARDS** · pick one per round

TOPIC	TOPIC	TOPIC
Weather Watch Create a two-sentence announcement for students after hearing: "A drizzle may begin after lunch. Bring a waterproof coat so you are not unprepared. We will check whether the weather changes." Decide which words are clearest and explain why.	Museum Visit Create a two-sentence museum reminder after hearing: "At the fossil exhibit, observe the bones closely. Do not talk aloud near the exhibit. The guide will explain prehistoric animals." Choose precise words and explain your choices.	Puppy Care Create a two-sentence pet-care tip after hearing: "A puppy needs daily exercise and nutritious food. An inactive puppy may become unhealthy. Check its paws before a long walk." Choose precise words and explain your choices.

ROLE CARDS · one per player

ROLE	ROLE	ROLE	ROLE
Clue Scout Listen for words in the topic that give clues about another word's meaning.	Part Builder Notice roots, prefixes, suffixes, and endings that help explain words.	Precision Picker Help the group compare word choices and choose the most exact word.	Tool Keeper Point out when a glossary, dictionary, or thesaurus could settle a word question.

MOVE CARDS · deal 4 to each player

MOVE CARD CONTEXT CLUE "The words around ____ make me think it means ____."	MOVE CARD SITUATION CLUE "From the situation, I infer that ____ means ____."	MOVE CARD WORD PARTS "The prefix, suffix, or root in ____ helps me think it means ____."	MOVE CARD WORD ENDING "The ending or word part ____ in ____ changes the meaning to ____."
MOVE CARD WORD SHADES "____ fits better than ____ because ____."	MOVE CARD SOUND CHECK "For this meaning, I would write ____, not ____, because ____."	MOVE CARD WORD PARTNER "A synonym or antonym for ____ is ____, which helps show ____."	MOVE CARD REFERENCE TOOL "To check ____, I would use a glossary, dictionary, or thesaurus and look for ____."

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

RUNNING THE ROUNDS

Run a round with one Topic Card, then rotate Role Cards for the next topic. Require students to use the printed starter before playing a card, but allow classmates to ask a follow-up question. If participation is uneven, give the quietest player the next turn and ask the group to build from that player's idea.

WHAT A STRONG ROUND SOUNDS LIKE

Lena	The words around unprepared make me think it means not ready.
Mateo	The prefix, suffix, or root in unprepared helps me think it means not prepared.
Zoe	Drizzle fits better than pour because a drizzle is light rain and a pour is heavier rain.
Ari	For this meaning, I would write weather, not whether, because we are talking about rain.
Lena	An antonym for unprepared is ready, which helps show that unprepared means not ready. Our announcement is: "A drizzle may begin after lunch, so bring a waterproof coat. We will check whether the weather changes."

LISTEN FOR

- uses nearby words or the situation as evidence for a meaning
- connects a prefix, suffix, root, or ending to a word's meaning
- explains why one homophone or precise word fits the meaning
- compares related words without treating all similar words as exact matches

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