

Relay Races

Proficiency Levels: Beginning

Competing teams form relay lines. They run to the front and must match several words on cards with real items or pictures, saying the words as they match them.

Steps

1. Place students in two teams. Teams line up.
2. Provide three to four words on cards, and the corresponding real items or pictures, at the front of each team. The items are not matched. For example, you might provide the words *hat*, *belt*, *glove*, and *sunglasses*, and all of these real items.
3. When the relay starts, one person from each team runs up and matches each word with its item or picture, saying the words aloud.
4. Check items. If they are matched correctly, the student rescrambles the words and items or pictures, and runs back to the team, and the next person in line runs up. When each team member has done the matching successfully, the team is done.
5. The team that finishes first wins.
6. To extend into listening, say the word shown on each picture and have the student point to the right picture.
7. To extend into writing, remove the words on cards. Instead, provide a white board on which the student will write the names of the items in the pictures.

Variations & Tips

- Students could have to say a short sentence or phrase, not just the word. For example, the student might have to say “This is a belt” or “These are sunglasses.”
- Students might have to do something with the objects and say what they are doing. For example, they might have to put on the belt, while saying “I’m putting on the belt,” and then take off the belt while saying “I’m taking off the belt.”
- Students might pass objects to each other, instead of running to the front. For example, they might pass the gloves and the card with the word *gloves*, while saying “These are gloves.” When all objects are passed through the whole line, the team is finished.