



CONCENTRATION

Players: 2 or more

Ages: 5 and up

Place: Table or other large flat surface

Equipment: 1 deck of VoWac Alphabet Playing Cards

Concentration is a playing card version of an old TV game show, except there are no fabulous prizes offered at the end. It is a great game for honing the powers of memory and observation. It also teaches kids to pay attention during the whole game, not just when it's their turn.

To set up the game, all the cards are laid facedown and side by side in even rows to form a neat, **more or less rectangular arrangement**.

The players now take turns flipping over two cards from the rectangle. Their aim is to find two that match (the letter and catch phrase). If a player finds a matching pair, she not only gets to keep it but also gets to take another turn.

If the cards don't match, the player simply flips the cards down again in the same spot, and the next player gets a try.

During one player's turn, it is crucial that all the other players pay attention to which cards are revealed and where they are in the rectangle. They can use this information when it's their turn to make a match. As the game progresses and more and more cards are removed from the board, it becomes easier to remember what is where. When all the cards are gone, the player with the most pairs, wins.

For younger players, it's a good idea to use only a small portion of the deck – say, 20 cards. Just make sure that you include the correct pairs!