

Using your Definition Cards

I. Naturally Expose the Children to the New Vocabulary

Before using the cards themselves, naturally expose the children to the new vocabulary by regularly using it in conversations, by observing live animals/plants, by reading aloud the corresponding definition books, and by using the corresponding 3-Part Cards. This is your opportunity to thoroughly internalize the terminology so that you can bring it to life for the child.

II. Match the Control Cards to the Photos

1. Find a clean workspace that is free from distractions. Place the photo-only cards and the control cards right-side up in front of the child. Place the control book upside-down on the top right corner of the workspace.
2. Pick up the photo cards and lay them out in columns (leaving room for the definition card to the right of each photo).
3. Pick up the control cards and say, "Let's see if we can match these definitions with these photos." Place the control card just to the right of each matching photo. Help them with a few.
4. Say, "Now, let's check and see if we were right!" Open the book up to the corresponding page for the top row photo. If the control card doesn't match, simply pick it up and place it aside to be rematched. Let the child continue with the rest.
6. Rematch any definitions if needed. Guide the child to recheck using the definition book.
7. Demonstrate how to carefully clean up the work and inspire them to repeat it or extend it by making their own materials.

III. Match the Terms and Full Definitions to the Photos

1. Repeat as above but instead of using the control cards, begin by matching the term cards to the photos. Then, match the definition cards to the photos. Let the child use the book to check his/her work without any help.

IV. Match the Terms and First- and Second-Halves of the Definitions to the Photos

1. Repeat as above but use the term cards, first-half definition cards, and second-half definition cards. Match the terms to the photos first. Then the first-half of the definitions followed by the second-half of the definitions. Use the book to check work independently.

Lesson 2: Match the photo cards with the definition control cards.

Use the book to check work independently.

Lesson 2 materials include five photo cards and five definition control cards. The photo cards show a tree, a close-up of branches, a close-up of leaves, a close-up of roots, and a close-up of the trunk. The definition control cards provide full definitions for each part: The tree (a woody plant that lives for many years, has a trunk, branches, leaves, and roots, began life as a seed), The branches (stems that connect leaves to the trunk, transport sugar, minerals, and water), The leaves (connected to branches, make the plant's food, also called foliage), The roots (base of the trunk, anchor the tree in soil, absorb water and minerals, grow in a wide, shallow spread), and The trunk (stems connecting roots and branches, carry sap, outer bark protects it).

Lesson 3: Match the photos with the terms & definitions. Use the book to check work independently.

Use the book to check work independently.

Lesson 3 materials include five photo cards, five term cards, and five definition cards. The photo cards are the same as in Lesson 2. The term cards are: The tree, The branches, The leaves, The roots, and The trunk. The definition cards provide full definitions for each part, matching the control cards in Lesson 2.

Lesson 4: Match the photos with the terms and both definition cards. Use the book to check work independently.

Use the book to check work independently.

Lesson 4 materials include five photo cards, five term cards, five definition cards, and five definition control cards. The photo cards are the same as in Lesson 2. The term cards are: The tree, The branches, The leaves, The roots, and The trunk. The definition cards provide full definitions for each part. The definition control cards provide full definitions for each part, matching the control cards in Lesson 2.