



# Rooted in Language

Growing Readers & Writers

Rooted in Language provides engaging strategies for both struggling and typical learners. Our activities are based on best practices from research in the fields of education, reading intervention, and speech language pathology.

We deliver our hard-earned, student-friendly ideas through our products and classes.

Thank you for trusting us,

The Rooted Crew

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# Holiday Hink Pinks

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*A Seasonal Synonym Word Game!*

## What are Hink Pinks?

**Hink Pinks** are pairs of single-syllable words that rhyme with each other (*green bean, float boat, rug bug*).

As word pairs become longer, the names for the pairs become longer too:

A rhyming pair of two-syllable words is called a **Hinky Pinky** (*stable table, certain curtain*)

A rhyming pair of three-syllable words is called a **Hinkety Pinkety** (*commuter computer*)

A rhyming pair of four-syllable words is called a **Hitinkety Pitinkety** (*community immunity*)

Hink Pinks can be played anywhere with or without a theme. The number of participants is limitless.

## The Traditional Hink Pink Game

The Hink Pink game requires two or more people.

- Players take turns thinking of a Hink Pink (or a Hinky Pinky, Hinkety Pinkety, etc.)
- The first player thinks of an idea and then provides a two-word clue, using synonyms, so the other players can guess the correct rhyming pair. (Examples follow)

For a modified version, allow players to use a whole phrase to describe one or both words in the Hink Pink. In either version no form of the Hink Pink words can be used to describe themselves.

### Example for Traditional Version:

For the Hink Pink *green bean*: Player One announces, “I have a Hink Pink,” and then gives a clue such as *verdant vegetable*. The rest of the players try to be the first to guess the correct Hink Pink.

For the Hinky Pinky *stable table*: Player One announces, “I have a Hinky Pinky,” and then gives a clue such as *steady furniture*.

### Example for Modified Version:

For the example *green bean*, the player announces, “I have a Hink Pink,” and then gives a clue such as *a grass-colored long, skinny vegetable*.

For the second example *stable table*, the player announces, “I have a Hinky Pinky,” and then gives a clue such as *an unshakable dining surface*.

Take turns being the clue-giver:

- Turns can be sequential, moving around the group
- Play can be more informal, allowing whoever thinks of a new Hink Pink to jump in and take a turn whenever there is an opening
- The person who solves the Hink Pink has the next turn

## Holiday Hink Pinks

For a fun holiday activity, we have included a list of holiday-based Hink Pinks:

- Print page 3 and cut out the word pairs (try not to read them ahead of time)
- Fold each word pair and place in a festive container or bowl. Gift boxes are fun!
- Take turns pulling out a word pair and giving a clue to the rest of the group.

Make sure to establish the clue-giving rules before you begin. If your group consists of a range of ages, you may wish to use the modified rules for younger players, and the more difficult rules for older players. Kids can work in teams to help generate synonyms for clues.

Use the blank squares below to create new Hink Pinks.

## Extension Idea (for any season)

For large groups, here is an alternative approach once kids understand Hink Pinks:

- Divide into two or more teams, and move each team to a private location.
- Each team starts with a fixed number of blank pieces of paper and an empty container. Each team creates their own Hink Pinks (or Hinky Pinkys, etc.)
- Write one rhyming pair on each piece of paper, fold it, and drop it in the container.
- When each team has completed all their pieces of paper, reunite with the other teams.
- One team at a time sends a team member up to draw a Hink Pink from another team’s container. The clue-giver creates a clue for their own teammates, who have a pre-determined amount of time to guess the answer (i.e., 30 to 60 seconds).
- If the correct answer is given, that team earns 1 point, and play moves to the next team. If the team runs out of time before a correct answer is given, no point is awarded, and play moves to the next team.
- Play for a set amount of time, or until all the clues are gone. The team with the most points wins!

free tree	gift lift	sleigh day	snow glow	bright light
wise guys	deer fear	church perch	yard card	yule fool
grim hymn	bell swell	far star	ghost host	strong song
loud crowd	we three	brings wings	sings things	old gold
sure myrrh	raise praise	praise craze	fresh creche	sky fly
toy joy	no bow	scrap wrap	food mood	yule school
shelf elf	Kings' things	Claus laws	Grinch winch	fatal dreidel
rear dear	long song	bake take	stock sock	fine pine
burr fur	beast feast	back sack	lost frost	thrift gift
seaside Yuletide	fruitcake mistake	cookie rookie	Kringle jingle	Yuletide joyride
Fanta Santa	kitten mitten	glitter litter	twinkle sprinkle	carol barrel
pleasant present	higher choir	shocking stocking	jelly belly	jolly holly
manger changer	premier reindeer	reindeer appear	divine bovine	very merry
merry berry	wrapping trapping	stable table	season reason	winner dinner
blowy snowy	blizzard wizard	better sweater	believe retrieve	grieving leaving
mistletoe Romeo	ornament argument	gratitude attitude		
generation adoration	nativity festivity	decoration celebration	divinity affinity	