The Tarjetas fonéticas can be used with a whole group (using a document camera) or with a small group of students. Students can also use the cards independently during center time to practice their word study skills. The following activities can help teachers use this resource to build greater Spanish literacy in their students.

Letter-Sound Identification (Kindergarten or struggling students grades 1+)

Sample Activity: Place 4-5 individual letter cards on the table (ex. c, t, p, m, l)

Example prompt: (sweep your hand across the letter cards and say) "Cuál de éstas letras tiene el sonido /s/como "cerdo"?

Sample Activity: Place 4-5 individual diphthong cards on the table (ex. oy, ai, ua, ie)

Example prompt: (Point to the diphthong cards) "Cuál de éstas diptongos dice /oy/ como "soy"?

Letter Blending activities (Kindergarten or struggling students grades 1+)

Sample Activity: Take two or three letters that form a common word in Spanish (ex: a,l for al OR e,l for el). Place the letters on the table and have students blend the letters to form the complete word.

Example prompt using a+l (al):

(point to the a)- "Esta letra tiene el sonido....?" (/a/). (reteach sound if needed)

(point to the I)- "Esta letra tiene el sonido...?" (/l/). (reteach sound if needed)

"Muy bien. Las letras 'a' y 'l' forman una palabra. Si las ponemos juntas, cuál es la palabra? (al). (reteach if needed)

Repeat with other common two or three letter words: (el, mal, sal, mar, son, si, etc.)

Syllable identification activities (Kindergarten or struggling students grades 1+)

Sample Activity: Place 4-5 syllable cards on the table. Choose from syllable families (ex. ca, ce, ci, co, cu) or mix different syllable patterns (ex. ma, sa, te, la, pa). For identification activities, don't worry about choosing syllables that form actual words.

Example prompt:

(Point to the syllable cards) "Cuál de éstas sílabas es "ma"?



Syllable Blending activities (Kindergarten or struggling students grades 1+)

Sample Activity: Take several (5-6) syllables that form actual words (ex: ca, ma, sa, po, la). Place the syllable cards on the table and have students blend the syllables to form the complete word.

Example prompt using (sa+po):

(point to the sa)- "Ésta es la sílaba....? (sa) (reteach if needed)

(point to the po)- "Ésta es la sílaba....? (po) (reteach if needed)

Muy bien. Las sílabas "sa" y "po" forman una palabra. Si las ponemos juntas, cuál es la palabra? (sapo) (reteach if needed)

Repeat with other common two or three letter words: (ex: casa, masa, sala, mala)

Word Sort activities (1st grade or struggling students grades 2+)

Word sorts can be used to introduce a new phonics element or review a previously taught concept.

Sample activity: Word sort based on vowel sound (ex. /a/ and /o/)

Place the following syllable cards on the table: (ma, sa, la, ta, ca, to, do, lo, co, mo, ro)

First, have the students sort the syllable cards into two categories, those syllables that have the /a/ sound and those that have the /o/. Then direct students to create words for each category using the syllable cards (ex. casa, masa, lata, lodo, todo, toro, como). Review the created words by sweeping your finger under the syllable parts and having students say the complete word.

Other word sort options: Initial sounds/syllable, final sound/syllable, "tricky sounds" like the hard and soft "c" and "g" (ex: *g suave = /j/* as in *gemelo*; *g duro = /g/* as in *ganso*).

Understanding morphology (word structure) is a strategy that students can use to infer the meaning of unfamiliar words. Research indicates that morphological awareness supports reading, writing and spelling abilities. Even preschool students can use suffixes and compounding to make new words (Green & Wolter, 2011).

The Tarjetas de morfología are a series of commonly used affixes in Spanish that can be used with a whole group (using a document camera) or with a small group of students.

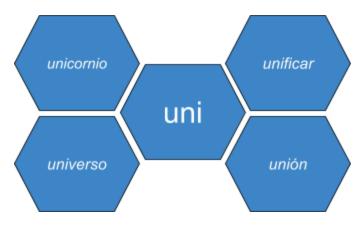
Connection to Tarjetas de morfología

Use the Tarjetas fonéticas to create new words that use the affixes from the Tarjetas de morfología. Encourage students to practice using their new words in sentences both orally and in writing!

The cards can be used as a quick review of previously taught affixes or to introduce new affixes. Younger students can be exposed to new vocabulary through oral language activities, while older students (2nd grade and up) can extend their learning by writing their new words in a journal or vocabulary notebook.

Activity ideas

Sample activity: Review one of the morphology cards with students (e.g., "uni"). Review the definition and the sample words from the cards. As an extension, use a web graphic organizer (see below) to generate additional words using "uni". Scaffold understanding using visuals and have students extend learning by using the new words in sentences (either orally or in writing).



Sample activity: Have students sort the morphology cards based on meaning; for example, students could sort the words that indicate quantity (one, three, many- "uno", "tri", "multi").

Sample activity: Have students sort the morphology cards based on parts of speech. For example, "ista" indicates a person or profession (artista, dentista) which are typically nouns. By comparison, "ido" usually describes a state or emotion (dolorido, vivido) which are typically adjectives.