

# Word Card Flash

## Materials

3" x 5" cards • black marker • crayons or picture and glue

## What to do

1. Choose a book that has a word in it repeated several times throughout the story. Write the word on a 3" x 5" card using a black marker, and if possible, glue or draw a picture for even more reinforcement.
2. Review the flash card with the children before you start the story.
3. Explain to the children that you are going to read the story straight through the first time. Then you will read it again with their help. Tell them to say the word on the flash card every time you hold it up during the story.
4. As you read the book to the children, hold up the flash card each time you come to the word in the story, and the children say the word. The children catch on fast and will begin to say the word without your prompting.
5. When you are finished, leave the book and the flash card in the reading corner. The children can look for the word in the story themselves.
6. As the children become more comfortable with this technique, you can do more than one word at a time.

**Tip:** Put the flash cards in a recipe box. Keep it in the reading corner for the children to use as they look through other books. At the end of the week, give the parents a word list of all the new words the children are working on.

★ Joy M. Tuttle, London, OH

# Categories Toll Booth

## Materials

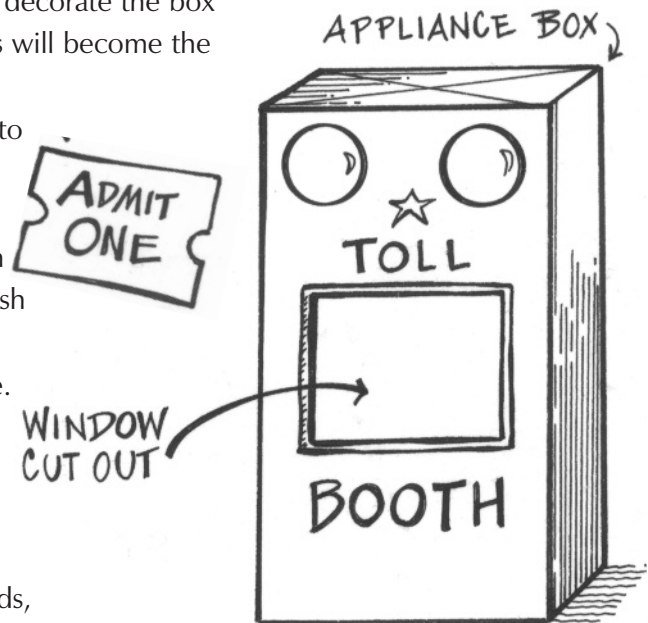
Appliance box or puppet theater • craft knife (adult only) • art supplies (crayons, paints, markers, material or paper scraps) • actual or created theater tickets

## What to do

1. Make a tollbooth by cutting out a large hole from the side of an appliance box (adult only). This will become a window. (If desired, use a puppet theater instead.)

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2. Encourage the children to decorate the box using the art supplies. This will become the tollbooth.
3. The children will pretend to drive up to the tollbooth and answer a question presented by the tollbooth operator. An adult may wish to be the first toll booth "operator" to demonstrate.
4. The tollbooth operator asks each child to name a member of a category, which is chosen ahead of time (such as animals, foods, clothing, or vehicles).
5. If the child answers correctly, she may give the tollbooth operator a ticket and proceed over the "bridge." If the answer is incorrect, the child may ask for help from another child, or "drive" around some more to think.
6. The children continue to take turns going to the tollbooth. Encourage the children to think of new answers each time.
7. When the game is understood, a child may become the tollbooth operator.



## Related books

*Go, Dog, Go!* by P.D. Eastman  
*Gray Rabbit's Odd One Out* by Alan Baker

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