

LIT LEAGUE  
**Sight Word Swat  
Game Cards**

We've included a few ways to play this game, which is perfect for kids who are learning sight words. Sight words are words that young readers need to memorize because they are difficult to decode. They don't follow the traditional rules of spelling or syllables, so young readers must work to learn them by sight. If you'd like to find lists of sight words, search the terms "Dolch Sight Words" or "Fry Sight Words."

### **How to Play Sight Word Swat**

#### **Option 1: Flyswatters**

1. Cut out the sight word cards with flies on them.
2. Lay the cards out on the ground or a table with the words facing upwards.
3. Hand your child a flyswatter.
4. As you call out each word, your child should smack that word as quickly as possible.

#### **Variations**

Think about your child's personality as you decide how to play. Some kids enjoy competition, others prefer gentle encouragement.

- To make it a competition, involve multiple participants. The first participant to swat the card wins the card. If you don't have multiple flyswatters, you can use hands. Like the game Slap Jack, the bottom hand touching the card wins. At the end of the game, the participant with the most cards wins.
- You can time a single participant, testing how long it takes to swat every word. Keep a record of the times for each round. As your child improves as a reader, use the decreasing times to illustrate growth.

#### **Option 2: Wise Old Owl**

1. If smacking flies is not your thing, cut out the wise owl cards instead. These cards contain the same sight words as the fly cards.
2. Lay the cards out on the ground or a table with the words facing upwards.
3. As you call out each word, your child should smack that word as quickly as possible with his/her hand.
4. Explain that when your child touches each wise owl card, s/he is also gaining wisdom.

#### **Variations**

Just as with flyswatters, think about your child's personality as you decide how to play.

- To make it a competition, involve multiple participants. The first participant to slap the card wins the card. Like the game Slap Jack, the bottom hand touching the card wins. At the end of the game, the participant with the most cards wins.
- You can time a single participant, testing how long it takes to slap every word. Keep a record of the times for each round. As your child improves as a reader, use the decreasing times to illustrate growth.

#### **Option 3: Wild Card**

1. For more advanced readers, we've included blank fly or wise owl cards that you can alter as you see fit. Here are some of our suggested uses:
  - As one option, make vocabulary flash cards using school-provided lists, a list of words from a favorite book series, or any age-appropriate word list you can find.
  - To make the word review a fun game, write the word on the top of the card and play the flyswatter or hands version of the above games (see instructions). You will read the definition of each word out loud, while your child searches for and swats the matching word.
  - This same game can be played to review math or science formulas or concepts your child is working to memorize.



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