

Speaking with your child in your home language(s) and sharing your culture and experiences with them helps strengthen their learning of English. Use these fun games and activities in any language to support their overall language development.



## Beat the Clock

1. Take turns making predictions. Say: **Predict whether \_\_\_\_\_ or not.** Fill in the blank with these examples:
  - the school project will be difficult
  - the soccer game will be fun
  - dinner will be delicious
  - the new neighbors will be friendly
  - the puzzle will be easy
2. Have one player make a prediction about the first item in 30 seconds.
3. Switch and have another player make a prediction about the next item in 30 seconds.
4. Players should use complete sentences to describe predictions.

### Example:

*The project will probably not be difficult because it's about my favorite subject.*



## Card Talk

1. Make a set of cards using the prompts below.
2. Place the cards face down in a pile.
3. The first player should pick a card from the pile, read the prompt, and choose another player to answer it.
4. Keep the game going until all of the cards have been used.

### Prompts:

*When do you play with your friends?*

*What can you tell me about \_\_\_\_\_?*

*What do you think of my new haircut?*

*How do you like the school lunch?*

### Example:

*When do you play with your friends? Whenever I have free time, I play with my friends.*

Encourage your child to answer in complete sentences. Next time, make a new set of cards with different prompts!



## 21 Questions

Pick a player to start. That player silently chooses an object. The other players take turns asking questions to gain one clue at a time about the mystery object. Players can ask up to a total of 21 questions before they have to guess. Here are some questions you can use to gather clues:

- What is unique about the secret object?
- Would you say the secret object and \_\_\_\_\_ look fairly similar or quite different?
- Is the secret object as \_\_\_\_\_ as \_\_\_\_\_?

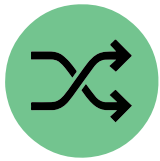
### Example:

*Is the object as big as a person? This object is not as big as a person.*



# SPEAK@HOME

SPEAKING AND LISTENING ACTIVITIES | #10



## Super Sort

1. Gather 5–10 pictures of dogs or cats.
2. Each player should select two pictures and prompt another player to describe how the objects are similar or different using complete sentences.
3. Then, players should exchange one of their pictures with another player and continue the game until everyone has had a turn to prompt and to answer.
4. Once everyone has had a turn to compare, work together to sort the pictures by similarities.

### Example:

*Would you say these cats look fairly similar or quite different? They look quite different because one is black and one is orange.*



## Speak Up

Talk to your child about dealing with challenges. Ask them to think about a time they faced a challenge at home or at school. Then, talk about how they responded, how things turned out, and what they learned from the experience. Use the questions below to guide your conversation:

- How did \_\_\_\_\_ create challenges for you?
- How did you handle \_\_\_\_\_?
- What do you need in order to \_\_\_\_\_?
- What's a better alternative to \_\_\_\_\_?

### Example:

*What's a better alternative to leaving the assignment until the last minute? Starting early instead of waiting is less stressful.*



## Photo Booth

Practice reading maps together! Find an online map or use a paper map if you have one. Then, mark your home plus additional familiar locations (e.g., school, grocery store, park, post office, a friend's home). Talk about each of the locations. Use the following questions to guide your conversation:

- Is the \_\_\_\_\_ as far/close as the \_\_\_\_\_?
- Which is farther from our home, the \_\_\_\_\_ or the \_\_\_\_\_?
- What can you tell me about \_\_\_\_\_?
- What's unique about \_\_\_\_\_?

Encourage your child to answer in complete sentences.

### Example:

*What's unique about the park? The park closest to our home has a big slide.*



## Tournament Time

Host a tournament to figure out your family's favorite food. Each player should brainstorm a list of favorite foods. Create a tournament bracket—like the ones used for basketball tournaments—with foods in place of team names.

Two contenders should be picked to match up against each other. Players should take turns asking each other: **What do you think of \_\_\_\_\_?** Players should explain why they think each food is tastiest.

When all foods have been considered, have family members vote for the winning food and then make and eat it together!

### Example:

*What do you think of Abuela's pupusas? They are the best pupusas I've ever eaten.*

