

INTERMEDIATE SYLLABLE PLUS

Board Game

by

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INFORMATION FOR THE TEACHER

INTERMEDIATE SYLLABLE PLUS is a hands-on game to teach older students to identify the basic prefixes, roots and suffixes and fit them into the traditional English syllable patterns. It is designed to provide practice and reinforcement with a minimum of teacher time. It can be used with students from 6th grade through college. Repeated practice will enable students to understand and see that polysyllabic words are combinations of syllables. As “decoding” becomes automatic, language energy can be applied towards comprehension.

CONTENTS

This game consists of the following materials:

- Game cards (prefixes, roots, and suffixes) to be cut
- Guide strips for categorizing syllables
- INTERMEDIATE SYLLABLE PLUS instructions
- Answer key

BEFORE INTRODUCING INTERMEDIATE SYLLABLE PLUS

English is governed by a combination of six basic syllable patterns. Mastery of the six basic syllable patterns is important to reading as well as spelling especially for those students who have not learned by the traditional methods. Many students have not learned about syllables, and as language demands in classes triple in junior and senior high, these students are left further and further behind. Usually, syllable patterns are not directly taught to students, and it is assumed that students have learned and internalized them. When students are having reading difficulty, teach them the basic syllable types, how they work and what vowel sounds they control. Some students may need to start with the basic version of SYLLABLE PLUS.

PLAYING INTERMEDIATE SYLLABLE PLUS

Students may begin with any set(s) of roots, prefixes or suffixes. Individually or in small groups, play continues until all the cards are sorted or fifteen minutes is up, whichever comes first. For the beginning students, teach the concept of the Closed syllable and ask the students to find all cards that are Closed syllables. Go through all the syllable patterns in the same way. Students will soon learn that some categories will have few or no prefixes, roots or suffixes. Students left holding cards probably have syllables in the PLUS category.

CORRECTING INTERMEDIATE SYLLABLE PLUS

Check each column for errors. Errors will leap out because incorrect syllables are visually obvious. Check the PLUS column. Then discuss placement of syllables in the PLUS column by asking the student to explain his/her reason/s for placing the syllable there. The answers will allow the teacher to “see” the student’s reasoning. At that time, the teacher may directly teach or re-explain needed corrections.

INTERMEDIATE SYLLABLE PLUS BOARD GAME EXAMPLE

The numbers in the corners of the games cards ease in sorting the games cards by sets.

CLOSED	C-L-E	OPEN	DOUBLE VOWEL	SILENT E	R CONTROL	PLUS
trans- 2P			joint 7R	duce 4R	therm- 2P	numer 2R
			-ee 1S			-ure 4S
	co- 6P					
		suc- 6P				
		-ous 3S				