Guide to using the Word Blocks

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WORDBLOCKS

What are Word Blocks?

Word Blocks are a fun puzzle that get learners thinking about words. The puzzles can also be used to reinforce and promote discussion about spelling patterns and rules.

What age are the puzzles aimed at?

The puzzles can be used with a range of learners and will depend on the interest of the learner, support given and the version of rules used (see differentiation).

How to solve the puzzle

Learners create words using the letters in the Word Block. Each letter can only be used once in a word. The aim is to create as many words as possible from the letters. The answers given are common words that are likely to be found. The list is not exhaustive and it is possible to find other words.

Differentiation

Learners can be extended or supported through the use of adult questioning (see Word Block Questions).

There are 3 rule versions; 'Easy-peasy' for beginners; 'Traditional' for older or more practised learners; and 'Challenge' for those that like a challenge.

Easy-peasy Word Blocks

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EASY-PEASY

- **Unscramble the letters to make words of 3 letters or more**
- **Each letter can only be used once in a word**
- **Plurals can be included in the total word count**
- **Word lists and dictionaries can be used to help learners think of words**

Traditional Word Blocks

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TRADITIONAL

- **Unscramble the letters to make words of 4 letters or more**
- **Each letter can only be used once in a word**
- **Plurals cannot be included in the total word count**
- **Proper nouns cannot be included in the total word count**

Challenger Word Blocks

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CHALLENGER

- **Unscramble the letters to make words of 4 letters or more**
- **Each letter can only be used once in a word**
- **Plurals and proper nouns cannot be included in the total word count**
- **Each Word Block has an individual target score**
- **Learners can be challenged to give definitions of words found**
- **Points can be given based on word length, e.g.**

9 letters = 20 points	**6 letters = 6 points**
8 letters = 10 points	**5 letters = 4 points**
7 letters = 8 points	**4 letters = 2 points**

Target Score achieved = 50 points

Each word found that is not on the list = 100 points

Word Blocks Questions

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WORDBLOCKS

Supporting Questions

Which letter is that?

This is a capital – can you find the matching lower-case letter?

Can you see any words on the word list that start with that letter? How many letters does the word have? What is the next letter? Is the letter in the word block?

Can you find any words with__ letters on the word list?

Look at this letter pattern. Do you know any other words with this pattern?

Let's think of many words as we can beginning with __. Are the other letters of the words in the word block too?

Challenging Questions?

Which letters are common for word endings?

You have got a __ here. What letters do you know that are likely to be next to it?

You have got a __ here. What letters do you know that are unlikely to be next to it?

What words do you know with this letter string?

Can you think of any words that start/end with those letters?

Can you use all the letters to make a word?

Can you think of a system to help us not miss any words out?

Is that a real word? How can we check? Do you know what it means?

Word Block 1 Answers

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HANCISTRE

8 letter words

canister
christen
scantier

7 letter words

achiest
arsenic
cashier
certain
cistern
hairnet
hastier
nastier
raciest
richest
tarnish

6 letter words

achier
arisen
chaise
cretin
enrich
ethnic
hernia
insect
insert
nicest
racist
retain
retina
satire
shiner
shrine
snitch
strain
thrice

5 letter words

antic
arise
chain
chair
china
ethic
haste
heist
inert
inset
inter
irate
nicer
niche
raise
resin
rinse
risen
saint
satin
shine
shire
shirt
since
siren
sitar
stain
stair
stare
their
thine
train
trice
tries

4 letter words

anti
care
case
chin
chit
cite
hair
hate
heir
hint
hire
inch
itch
near
nice
race
rate
rain
rein
rice
rich
rise
rite
sari
shin
sine
sire
site
snit
stir
tear
thin
this
tier
tire

Target Score
102

Word Block 2 Answers

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APSTIVNRE

7 letter words

nastier
painter
pertain
private
repaint
striven
traipse
vainest

6 letter words

aspire
insert
invert
invest
native
pirate
praise
priest
ravine
retain
retina
ripest
satire
sniper
sprain
sprint
sprite
strain
stripe
strive
vainer

5 letter words

inept
inert
inset
inter
irate
naive
paint
print
prise
raise
resin
rinse
ripen
risen
saint
satin
sepia
siren
sitar
snipe
spine
spire
spite
stain
stair
strip
train
viper

4 letter words

anti
pain
pair
pier
pine
pint
rain
rein
ripe
rise
sari
sine
sire
site
snip
snit
spin
spit
stir
tier
tire
trip
vain
vein
vine
visa

Target Score
83

Word Block 3 Answers

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ZGEISENQU

9 letter words

squeezing

6 letter words

equine
genius
seeing
sequin

5 letter words

ensue
genie
guise
queen
seize
siege
singe

4 letter words

gene
seen
sine
size

Target Score
16

Word Block 4 Answers

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IDAOUCNTE

9 letter words

auctioned
cautioned
education

8 letter words

uncoated

7 letter words

auction
caution

6 letter words

action
atoned
auntie
cadent
canoed
canted
coated
deacon
decant
detain
donate

5 letter words

acted
acute
adieu
anode
anted
antic
atone
audio
audit
cadet
caned
canoe
dance
daunt
enact
ocean

4 letter words

aced
acid
acne
aide
ante
anti
aunt
auto
cane
coat
date
idea
iota
neat
toad
tuna

Target Score
49

Word Block 5 Answers

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ESLCAESRO

9 letter words

casserole

8 letter words

careless

lacrosse

7 letter words

earless

lassoer

rescale

6 letter words

caress

cereal

closer

coarse

crease

lesser

oracle

recess

resale

reseal

resole

scaler

sealer

solace

5 letter words

arose

cease

clear

close

cress

easel

erase

laser

lease

loser

scale

scare

score

4 letter words

acre

care

case

core

earl

ease

else

lace

leer

less

lose

race

real

reel

role

rose

sale

seal

sear

sole

sore

Target Score
54

Word Block 6 Answers

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RTSMAIGNE

9 letter words

mastering
streaming

8 letter words

angriest
emigrant
smarting
smearing
steaming

7 letter words

erasing
garment
granite
ingrate
migrant
migrate
minaret
nastier
searing
seating
seminar
smarten
staring
strange
teaming
tearing
teasing

6 letter words

ageism
ageist
airmen
arisen
arming
easing
eating
enigma
gasmen
inmate
magnet
manger
margin
marine
master
mirage
rating
regain
remain
retain
retina
satire
stamen
stigma
strain
stream
taming
triage

5 letter words

agent
anger
angst
arise
giant
grain
grant
grate
great
image
irate
manse
meant
raise
range
resat
saint
satin
sitar
smart
smear
snare
stage
stain
stair
stare
steam
train

4 letter words

amen
ante
anti
earn
east
gain
gait
game
gate
gear
gnat
gram
gran
main
mane
mare
mast
mate
mean
meat
mega
name
near
neat
rage
rain
rang
rant
rate
same
sane
sang
seam
sear

Target Score

114