



USING FLASHCARDS

By Carol Read

USING FLASHCARDS IN CLASS

There are lots of benefits to using flashcards in class.

- They help young children associate pictures, words and sounds
- They help develop memory skills
- They add variety and momentum to lessons
- They're fun and engaging
- They encourage young learners to use language naturally



4 FLASHCARD ACTIVITIES TO TRY WITH YOUR YOUNG LEARNERS

1 One, two, three—point with me!

Stick 3-6 flashcards on the classroom walls. Make circles with your arm and index finger. Say: *Are you ready? One, two, three! Listen and point to the flashcards with me! One to three—point to theapples! Very good!*

You can point to start with. Then let children point on their own, once they are familiar with the words.

3 Mime the flashcard

Put 3-6 flashcards on the board or floor. Mime one of them and encourage children to guess what you are. *Look! What am I? Can you guess?*

Confident children can then take turns doing their own mime for the others to guess.



2 Jump to the flashcards!

Stick 3-6 flashcards on different walls. Give instructions to pairs of children in turn, e.g. *Jump to the apples....Alex and David, Fly to the bananas....Lucy and Ana!* Demonstrate the actions if needed.

NB: Name the children after the action so they all keep listening!

4 Flashcard mix

Choose 3 flashcards. Get children to name them, e.g. giraffe, then turn them face down and mix them up. Point to one and invite a child to guess what it is. Turn it over and check. If the answer is wrong, the whole class says *Oh no! It's the parrot. Let's try again!* Mix the cards up again and ask another child to guess. Everyone claps when the answer is correct, and the child who guessed correctly is the next to mix up the cards.

TOP TIP: Use these activities or one like them, to introduce, practise, recycle and revise vocabulary.