

VOCABULARY TEACHING TUBS

Designed to meet these objectives:

Language

- Students will develop vocabulary and oral language skills.
- Students will sort and classify objects.
- Students will match words and pictures to objects.

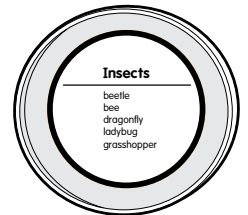
Our Vocabulary Teaching Tubs are designed to help students develop early reading and vocabulary skills—and have fun in the process! As students use the miniatures in a variety of skill-building and creative activities, they will build their vocabulary and gain greater confidence in their oral and written language skills!

What's Included

- 10 teaching tubs with lids
- 10 lid stickers
- 10 label stickers
- 10 list stickers
- 50 double-sided photographic vocabulary cards
- 50 miniatures

Before You Begin

First, label the tubs with the self-adhesive lid and list stickers. The stickers are color-coded by category. Start by labeling the lids one category at a time. For example, place a round lid sticker with the name of the category on the top of one lid, then flip the lid over and place the matching list sticker with the list of items on the back side. (The list will help you remember which five miniatures go in that tub.) Continue this procedure until all of the lids are labeled. Afterward, label the tub sides with the matching oval label stickers,



WARNING:

CHOKING HAZARD—Item contains small parts and small ball. Not for children under 3 yrs.

one per tub. Finally, place the corresponding photographic vocabulary cards and matching miniatures inside each tub.

Tubs & Contents

Clothing & Accessories

hat
pants
vest
boot
scarf

Home

phone
rug
lamp
refrigerator
window

Sports

baseball bat
racket
football
soccer ball
basketball

Community

gas pump
school
stop sign
mailbox
house

Insects

beetle
bee
dragonfly
ladybug
grasshopper

Things That Go

boat
plane
van
train
bike

Food

pizza
yogurt
pretzel
egg
watermelon

Pets

dog
cat
lizard
fish
turtle

Wild Animals

elephant
giraffe
moose
bear
zebra

School

book
block
chair
glue
globe

Getting Started

Use this small-group activity to introduce the tubs to your class: Gather the group at a table or on the floor. Begin by taking out an object from one tub and saying its name. For example, take a pretzel out of the Food tub and say “pretzel.” Invite students to examine the objects and the photo cards and say the name of each aloud. Then ask, “What do all of these things have in common?” Ask students to look at the objects again. Show the tub lid to the group and point to the name of the category on the label. Tell them that all the items in this tub are types of food. Finally, show them the photo cards and have them practice matching the photo cards to the miniatures.

Extension Activities

Nature Talk

Display the Insects, Pets and Wild Animals tubs. Open each one and have students take out and explore the miniatures and photo cards. Mix up all the items and place them in a pile. Discuss with the group the different habitats of each type of animal. For example, pets live in people’s homes, while insects and wild animals usually live outdoors and have to find their own food and shelter. Then, have students work together to sort the items and place them into the appropriate tubs.

Word or Picture Recognition

For students who are reading, you can use the photo vocabulary cards as flash cards. For those who aren’t reading, use the photographic side for matching practice. Hold up a card with either the word side or the picture side facing students, and have them say the word for, or name of, the item. Then, ask them to find the matching miniature.

Paper Bag Fun

Place miniatures from several tubs into a paper bag. Put the empty tubs in the center of the group. Pass the paper bag around the group, and invite one student at a time to reach in and pull out an object. Encourage the student to look at the object, name it and identify the category it belongs to. Ask the student to put the object into the correct tub and then pass the bag to the next player. (Students can also do this activity at a learning center.)

For another fun game, try this variation: Select a miniature from a tub and put it in a small paper bag. Then, tell a riddle about the object, such as “This is an animal that has four legs. It has a long neck and can be visited at the zoo. What’s in the bag?” When a student volunteers the answer “giraffe,” ask the student to remove the object from the bag to see if the answer is correct. That student can then choose the tub in which the miniature belongs. Repeat the game with other items.

Storytime

Invite three student volunteers to select one miniature each, without looking, and place their miniatures in the center of the group. Ask, “Can we tell a story using all three of these objects?” Work together as a group to tell the story. Write the story on chart paper as students create it. When the story is complete, read it back to them. Then, invite students to illustrate their story.

Object Matching

This activity may be played in a small group. First, choose two or three tubs and spread out their contents on a table next to the empty tubs. Display the photo cards with the word side or the picture side facing the students (depending on the children's level). Pick up one photo card and show it to them. Ask the students to silently think of the object represented by the word or picture. Then, ask for a volunteer. The volunteer you select will find the appropriate miniature and put it into the correct tub. Continue the game by choosing a new word or picture and inviting another student to look for the appropriate miniature and tub.

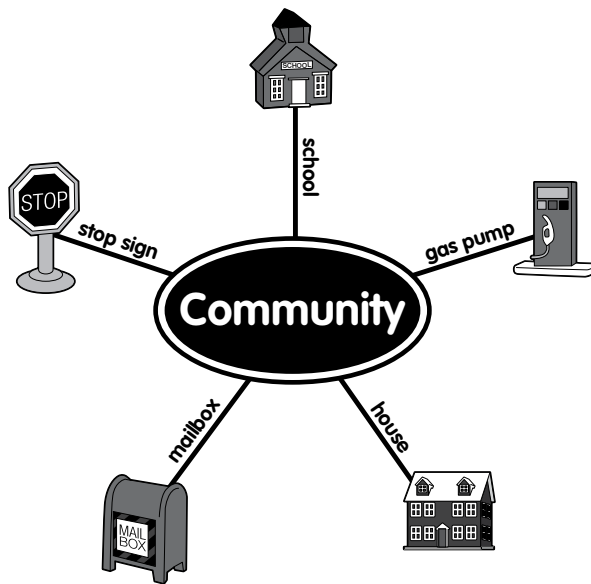
A variation of this game is to reverse it. This time, hold up a miniature and invite a student to point to the photo card it represents. Repeat the process with the rest of the group. Students can repeat this activity by working with partners at a learning center.

Category Booklets

Invite the class to make booklets shaped like an object from each category. For example, for the Things That Go tub, ask them to cut out three or four pages in the shape of a train and staple the pages together. (You may wish to prepare pages ahead of time for younger students.) Prompt the students to draw a picture of a corresponding object on each page.

Word Web

Ask students to select one tub. Then, on a sheet of paper, write the name of the tub's category in the center of a piece of paper and circle it. Next, draw lines from the center circle outward, like the spokes of a wheel. Ask the children to place a miniature at the end of each spoke. Encourage students to think of other objects that are not represented by objects in the tubs.



Informal Assessment Ideas

- Set out all the miniatures from one of the tubs and point to each one. Have the child say the name of each item, then have the student select one item. Give him a few minutes to examine it, and then ask him to think of three words that describe that item. For example, for the watermelon he might say "juicy," "red" and "delicious." Record notes for each child's portfolio.
- Display three miniatures—two from the same category and one from a different category, such as the bee, the grasshopper and the chair. Ask the student to tell you which item does not belong in the group. Have her explain why and name the categories each item belongs in. Try this assessment with more items, including two or even three that do not belong with the others.
- Display the miniatures and/or photo cards from two or more tubs. Mix the miniatures. Ask the child to place the miniatures and/or photo cards into the correct tubs.