



Vocabulary Toss

Materials Needed

- Mini basketball net with sponge “basketball”
- Questions matched to words on the classroom word wall (see *Before the Game* below)

Before the Game

Purchase and set up in the classroom a mini basketball hoop that comes with a small sponge “basketball.” Use masking tape to create on the floor a foul line that shots will be taken from.

Prepare in advance a vocabulary activity employing words that are included on the students’ word wall. Prepare at least one question for each student in the class. The following sample question formats will work nicely for that purpose:

- Provide a sentence that has one word missing; that word can be found on the word wall.
- Provide a synonym (a word that means the same thing) or an antonym (a word that means the opposite), and have students identify the word.
- Provide a rhyming word and ask students to identify the word on the word wall.
- Provide a mathematical symbol and ask the students to identify the word that matches the symbol.

The Game

Arrange the class into 2 to 4 teams. Ask one of the questions you prepared (See *Before the Game* above) of the first student on the first team.

- ✓ If a student identifies the correct word-wall word, that student earns a point and a chance to double his or her score (earn two points for the team) by trying to shoot a basket. A successful shot earns that second point; there is no penalty for a missed shot.
- ✓ If the student does not identify the correct word-wall word, pass the question to the first player on the next team.

Adapted from an idea provided by teacher Melba Smithwick

