

Word Wizards

Read the clue. Make meaning. Connect four.

THIS BOARD SUPPORTS
Academic Vocabulary

Four in a Row

Claim a word with a strong answer. Connect four of your lettered tokens across, down, or diagonally.

01

scarce

Water was scarce; only one bottle remained.

02

reluctant

Jo was reluctant to jump, hesitating at the edge.

03

vivid

The vivid colors seemed bright enough to glow.

04

fragile

The fragile glass broke with a small tap.

05

ancient

The ancient wall stood for thousands of years.

06

enormous

The enormous tent held the entire class.

07

cautious

The cautious hiker tested each step on the ice.

08

generous

Our generous neighbor shared her harvest with everyone.

09

swift

The swift runner crossed the field in seconds.

10

weary

After the long hike, the weary team needed rest.

11

sturdy

The sturdy shelf held heavy books without bending.

12

silent

The silent room had no voices or sounds.

13

assist

Please assist me by holding this heavy door.

14

observe

Observe the bird closely and note its colors.

15

predict

Use the dark clouds to predict tomorrow's weather.

16

contrast

Contrast the leaves: one is smooth, the other rough.

Spin your challenge



Hold a paper clip at the center with a pencil tip; flick to spin. On a line? Spin again.

- 1 • **Meaning** Explain the word.
- 2 • **Clue** Quote a helpful context clue.
- 3 • **Swap** Give a fitting synonym.
- 4 • **Use** Say a new sentence.

How to Play

2 wizards • 10–15 minutes

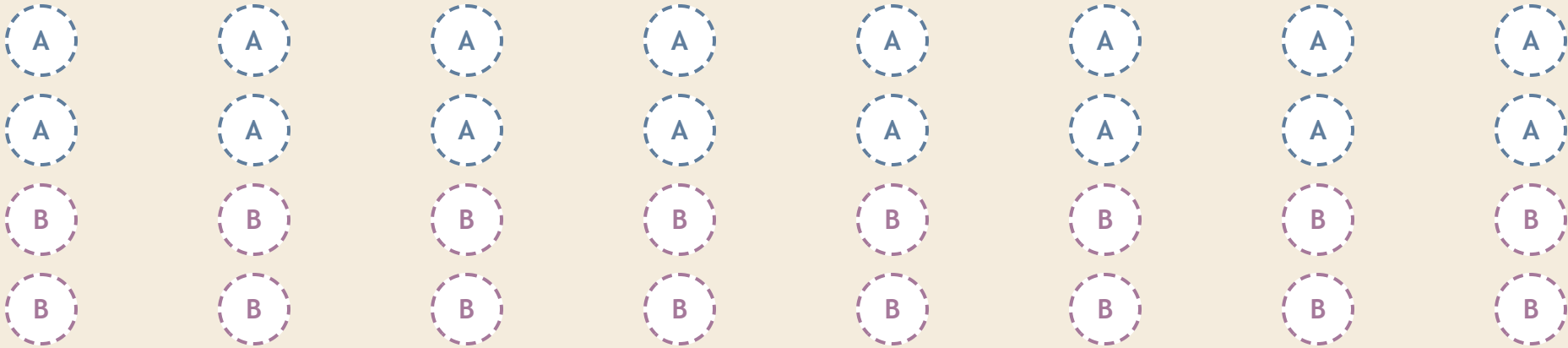
Use page 2 tokens, a pencil, and a paper clip.

- Choose A or B tokens. The board begins empty. A takes the first turn; then alternate.
- Spin, choose any unclaimed word, and read its context aloud. Complete the numbered challenge for that word.
- Your partner checks with the word key and challenge guide. Ask the teacher if unsure. Correct: cover the word with your token. Otherwise: leave it open and discuss the correction.
- First to connect four wins. If the board fills with no line, the player with more tokens wins; equal totals tie.

Wizard Kit

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Cut 16 A tokens and 16 B tokens. Keep the checker's key intact.



Word key • Suggested meanings and synonyms

01 scarce: not plentiful; rare

03 vivid: bright; striking

05 ancient: very old

07 cautious: careful; alert to danger

09 swift: fast; quick

11 sturdy: strong; solid

13 assist: help

15 predict: say what is likely to happen

02 reluctant: unwilling; hesitant

04 fragile: easily broken; delicate

06 enormous: very large; huge

08 generous: willing to give; giving

10 weary: tired; exhausted

12 silent: without sound; quiet

14 observe: watch carefully; notice

16 contrast: tell how things differ

Challenge guide: 1 Meaning: accept the key or a close paraphrase. 2 Clue: quote words that support the meaning, then explain the connection (scarce: “only one bottle remained” means little was left). 3 Swap: a synonym must preserve the context’s meaning; small grammar adjustments are fine. 4 Use: a new complete sentence must show the word’s meaning, not merely include it. “The fragile ornament shattered when it fell” works.

Color guide: Blue = description; mauve = qualities; green = condition; gold = academic actions. Colors group the words; any unclaimed word is available on any spin.