

Really Great Reading's English Vocabulary Cards for English Learners User's Guide

Cards can be used with a small group or in centers.

What are the English Picture Vocabulary Cards for ELs?

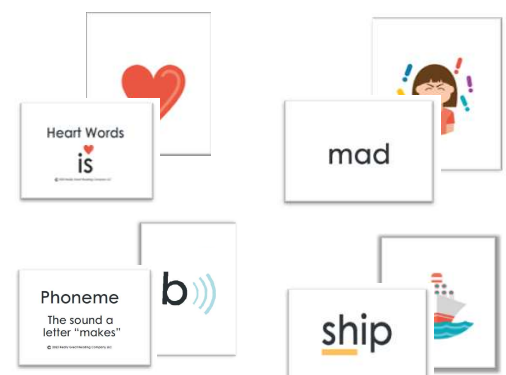
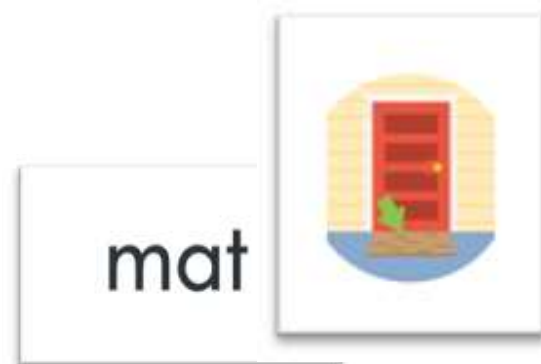
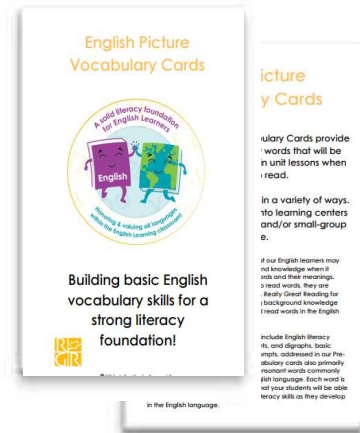
Our English Picture Vocabulary Cards intentionally consider the acquisition of new vocabulary as students are developing basic decoding skills in the English language. Really Great Reading understands the reality our multilingual learners face when learning not only how to read words but also, simultaneously, what the meanings of those words are. As the English learner student is able to identify new words in their literacy space, they are more likely to be engaged and make connections with the content being taught. Although these cards can be used in various ways, they are specifically aligned to words students will encounter when beginning to read in our curriculum programs

Design of EL Vocabulary Cards

The words on the picture vocabulary cards, are typical words encountered in the English language when beginning to read. These words are also organized based on the consonant groupings taught in Countdown (K), Blast (1st), and reviewed in HD Word (2nd–5th) programs. Students will have learned all the letter-sound correspondence needed to read each word. The pictures on the other side of the cards give meaning to the new English words as students are building their vocabulary in the new language. These words are typically seen, in whole-group and small-group literacy instruction, as well as in individual reading practice. Each curated vocabulary picture is meant to provide for immediate reference, background knowledge, and pre-exposure as students hear, speak, read, and write new words. This can also support building students' confidence as they approach reading each new word..

Word and Picture Types

These cards contain commonly used CVC (consonant-vowel-consonant words), simple words with digraphs, and functional literacy vocabulary words used throughout our curriculum. Visual prompts for functional vocabulary words such as nonsense words, Heart Words, phonemes, etc. provide for referencing, reassurance, and a better understanding when those words are used and referred to during instruction.



How can I use these cards?

These picture vocabulary cards can be used in a variety of ways. Some sample activities are below. We encourage you to be creative and have fun with the cards; however, it would most benefit your language learners.

Option 1: The teacher can mix up the groupings of cards and have students sort each picture to the correct beginning sound. They can check the back for accuracy.

Option 2: The picture or visual side of the cards can also be used as a visual prompt to build a word, while having a student activity partner check for accuracy on the written side of the card.

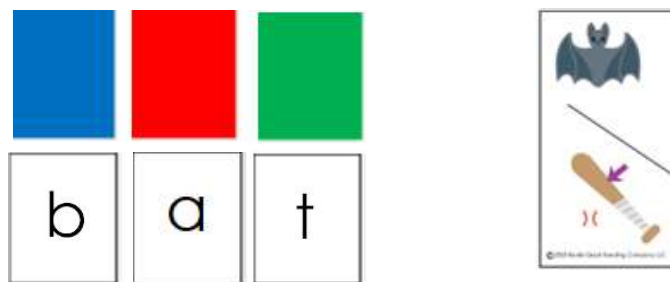
Option 3: Student vocabulary cards can also be used in sorting or rhyming centers; students can group the cards by picture side or word side to match words with the same beginning sounds, letters, rhymes, etc.

Small Group—Intervention Instruction

The cards can also be used during small group instruction or literacy intervention blocks.

Option 4: The cards can be used as prompts to check for understanding of the English word; the teacher can say a word and have the student select the correct card (the picture side) out of a group of cards placed in front of them. This can be helpful in building confidence and checking for understanding, where a student may not yet feel comfortable verbally expressing themselves in the English language. This activity can accurately show you their understanding by selecting or pointing to the correct picture card.

Option 5: The picture or visual side of the cards can be used as vocabulary support during teacher-led word-building activities with the color and letter tiles. The teacher can say and show the pictured word from the card, and then students can build that word with their manipulatives above or below the picture. Student activity partners can check for the spelling accuracy of the word built using the word side of the card.



The teacher can also use the nonsense picture card as a visual prompt, reassuring students that there is no meaning attached, but that they are simply practicing their letters and sounds by building nonsense words.

