

Scrambled

Words



INTRO BUILD APPLY

Summary

Scrambled Words presents one word at a time from the unit vocabulary list. Each word is scrambled so that the word parts (e.g, syllables) are out of order. To solve the puzzle, students put the word parts back into the correct order. For compound words, this can be challenging! Visual and audio supports help students to decipher each puzzle. Students are provided with a picture of the target word and may listen to the word narrated.

Learning Goals

- Students develop **morphology** skills by manipulating word parts. Learning sciences research shows that manipulating chunks of letters (syllables or affixes) is more effective than manipulating individual letters (spelling).
- This activity improves word **decoding**, reducing cognitive load when reading the words later.



Use with a student device such as a Chromebook, laptop, tablet, or desktop.



Use this activity as independent practice.



Headphones are optional, but may help students to better hear the word clues.



How to Use Scrambled Words

Individual Practice

Scrambled Words presents a series of challenging multisyllabic words from the unit vocabulary. Words are presented one at a time, but some are compound words containing many syllables or affixes. Students drag the puzzle pieces from the top row to the target space on the bottom row. Alternatively, they may tap once on a puzzle piece and then tap again on the space where they want it to go.

The game provides corrective feedback and allows students to self-correct through experimentation. A visual is provided for each word. Students can also listen to the word to help them put the syllables and affixes in the correct order.

Virtual Manipulatives

Scrambled Words uses kinesthetic learning to activate mental processes and deepen understanding of morphology. This is especially helpful for English Learners and any student struggling with decoding.

Key Learning Strategies

Game Puzzles	<i>Scrambled Words</i> helps students to visualize how to connect one word part to another. By engaging student attention in active learning, the game motivates students to develop meaningful connections with vocabulary that is directly aligned with the unit of study.
Scaffolds	Students may listen to the words. By sounding out the words in their heads, they develop automaticity with decoding and this reduces cognitive load when reading these words later.
Word Manipulatives	Actively manipulating word parts deepens a student's understanding of morphology and develops their skill at seeing linguistic patterns. The game's kinesthetic, visual learning aspect also helps students to transition new words to long-term memory.