

4 Ways to Build Language Skills with Bananagrams

Bananagrams is a lively spelling game for ages 7 to 107 that will have your family and friends racing to spell as quickly as they can! You can build words horizontally and vertically, and you can shuffle them up anytime you need to—just make sure each word connects to at least one other word. You'll have to be quick-thinking and fast-fingered if you want to be the first player to yell, "Bananas!"

Here are four great ways to use Bananagrams to strengthen your child's spelling and vocabulary skills.



1. **Broaden vocabulary.** Kids will be introduced to new words throughout gameplay as they learn from one another's lists of found words. Having a dictionary on hand can be helpful; if you're unfamiliar with a word another player finds, you can look it up.
2. **Reinforce spelling skills.** If you have a child who would benefit from a fun way to practice spelling, this game is a terrific option! Not only is it super-engaging, it makes spelling practice practically painless. Kids will definitely love being able to shout "Rotten Banana!" when they spot a misspelled word in another player's grid.
3. **Learn about anagrams.** This game is called Bananagrams for a reason! An *anagram* is a word formed with letters found in another word. Because players may have to rearrange their letters multiple times throughout a game, it gives kids the perfect chance to explore the vast number of words that can be made with the letters they're given.
4. **Gain familiarity with word parts.** Bananagrams requires careful strategy; while it sometimes pays to just slap down whatever words you see, you can increase your chances of winning by paying attention to blends, consonant teams, vowel teams, prefixes, and suffixes. Kids will learn to keep an eye out for handy combinations like EN, ED, ES, TION, and ING, and they'll get comfortable using them to create words.

Visit blog.allaboutlearningpress.com/category/game-reviews for more great games to build language skills!