

Terrific Tenses

MATERIALS

FOR STUDENT: (one per student unless otherwise noted)

- FloraCraft® Make It: Fun® Foam Balls, two 3" diameter
- Plastic forks, 7" length, one in each of four colors (green, turquoise, orange, pink)
- Plastic knife (any color)
- Cardstock:
 - White, 3" x 4" rectangles, twelve or more
 - Colored, 1 1/2" x 3" strip in each of four colors to match forks (green, turquoise, orange, pink)
- Washable black fine line marker
- Scissors
- Paper plate
- Plastic zip-sealed bag (to hold all parts)



FOR TEACHER:

- Cardstock, 12" x 12" sheets:
 - White (can get twelve rectangles per sheet)
 - Colored, (green, turquoise, orange, pink) (can get thirty-two strips per sheet)
- Sheet of white address labels (two per student)
- Copy paper
- Paper cutter
- Serrated knife
- Scissors
- Permanent black marker
- Cutting mat or stack of newspapers
- Computer, printer

TEACHER PREPARATION

Note: Read through all instructions first and check out the TIPS!

It is recommended that you make a sample first, before preparing the materials for any others, since knowing how the parts fit, might affect how you prepare the rest of them.

[1] Use a serrated knife to cut each foam ball in half, making four half-balls per student.

[2] Use a paper cutter to cut the white cardstock into 3" x 4" rectangles. One sheet will give one student twelve pieces, which would be enough to start. (You may want to cut extras later, for more words.) Also cut 1 1/2" x 3" strips from each of the four colored pieces of cardstock, one of each color strip per student.

[3] Find in a textbook, search on the Internet, use the list provided, or create your own list of verb tenses appropriate for your students. Make one copy for each student.

[4] Cut in half two address labels per student. On a paper plate for each student put: Four foam ball halves, twelve white cardstock cards, one of each color cardstock strip, four half-labels, marker, plastic knife, and four colored forks. Have sheets of verb tenses ready to distribute later.

LANGUAGE ARTS

GRADE LEVEL
FOURTH – FIFTH

COMPLETION TIME

- 45 minutes



OBJECTIVES

Students learn:

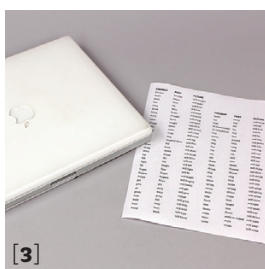
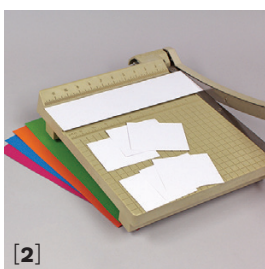
- The differences in the types of verb tenses
- The proper use of verb tenses
- Through the use of 3-D cards that reinforce memorization

STANDARDS

- Demonstrate command of the conventions of Standard English grammar and usage when writing or speaking
- Form and use the perfect (e.g., I had walked; I have walked; I will have walked) verb tenses
- Use verb tense to convey various times, sequences, states, and conditions
- Recognize and correct inappropriate shifts in verb tense.

LESSON INTRODUCTION

- Determine what you want to reinforce in the lesson on verbs. The photo model uses Present, Past and Future Tenses, and includes irregular verbs in a separate fork display. Present the lesson on tenses, explaining that the students can make their own cards from the master list and use the forks to study and quiz each other. Explain that they can also use the "forks" for other memorization they want to do.



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INSTRUCTIONS

[1] Have the students print the words "Past", "Present" and "Future" on the top of their colored strips using their markers. (If you want all students to have the same color for each tense, so that if they work together the same colors are being memorized, indicate which colors to use.) Then have them print "Irregular Verbs" on the last strip (or whatever you plan to use for that fork display).



[2] Demonstrate and have the students set one foam ball half on edge and gently press down to compress and slightly round the edge. Apply even pressure as you rotate the foam to smooth.

Then demonstrate and have the students set one foam ball half in front of them with cut side down. Have them use their plastic knife to saw a horizontal slit toward the front of the foam ball half (which looking down from the top, is about one third the way back). Caution the students not to cut all the way through, just far enough to slide a cardstock strip into it.



[3] Demonstrate and have the students insert the handles of their forks into the top centers of

their foam ball halves, matching the colors with the cardstock. (Remind them to be sure that they are in the center, so that the ball halves balance.) Have them press the forks in far enough to be sturdy, without poking through the bottom. Then, ask them to write their name on each of the four half-labels and attach them to the bottoms of each of their foam ball halves.



[4] Distribute the sheets of verb tenses. Demonstrate and have the students vertically position their white cards and print a word near the top in marker. Continue with each of the other tenses for that same word. Ask students to write four sets of words (for their twelve cards). Note: Later, they can write another four sets of words on the backs.



[5] Then, have the students insert one set of words into their proper forks. Have students store all pieces in their plastic bag.



MODIFICATIONS

To simplify project:

- Use computer and printer to print words on both white and colored cardstock and cut apart for students.
- Pre-cut slits in foam ball halves.

To expand project:

- Cut more cards and have students work with more word sets.
- Make additional fork displays for other verb-related lessons.

For multiple ages:

- Younger and older students can work side-by-side, with older students using more challenging words.
- Have older students research additional word sets.

ADDITIONAL IDEAS

- Use the cards for other parts of speech, making new colored strips with the names of the part of speech.
- Give each student a different set of words so they can trade and use them without having seen them before.
- Make verb tenses worksheets printed on colored paper to coordinate with students' color code.
- Encourage students to use the color to their advantage in helping them remember, (which is a good reason for standardizing the colors for all the students in the class).



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TIPS

- When cutting a foam ball in half with the serrated knife, roll the foam ball as you press the knife blade into it, watching that it is creating two equal halves. After reaching the beginning, saw back and forth to finish cutting.
- If cut edges of foam ball halves are uneven, rub the two cut edges together, over a wastebasket, to sand them down.
- The reason for having the students write the words closer to the tops of their colored strips is so that the words will show when they are slid into the foam of the half foam ball.
- If a student accidentally cuts off the front third of the foam ball half, when making the slit for the cardstock strip, use a glue gun to glue it back on, and turn that side to the back. Then make a new slit in the front.
- Have extras of cardstock strips and rectangles, forks and foam ball halves.

WORDS

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PRESENT**PAST****FUTURE**

become	became	will become
begin	began	will begin
bend	bent	will bend
bite	bit	will bite
blow	blew	will blow
break	broke	will break
bring	brought	will bring
burst	burst	will burst
catch	caught	will catch
choose	chose	will choose
come	came	will come
creep	crept	will creep
dig	dug	will dig
dive	dived or dove	will dive
do	did	will do
draw	drew	will draw
drink	drank	will drink
drive	drove	will drive
eat	ate	will eat
fall	fell	will fall
fight	fought	will fight
fly	flew	will fly
forget	forgot	will forget
forgive	forgave	will forgive
freeze	froze	will freeze
get	got	will get
give	gave	will give
go	went	will go
grow	grew	will grow
hide	hid	will hide
hold	held	will hold
hurt	hurt	will hurt
kneel	knelt	will kneel

PRESENT**PAST****FUTURE**

know	knew	will know
lay	laid	will lay
lead	led	will lead
lie (horizontal)	lay	will lie
lie (falsehood)	lied	will lie
lose	lost	will lose
prove	proved	will prove
ride	rode	will ride
ring	rang	will ring
rise	rose	will rise
run	ran	will run
say	said	will say
see	saw	will see
shake	shook	will shake
show	showed	will show
shrink	shrank	will shrink
sing	sang	will sing
sink	sank	will sink
speak	spoke	will speak
spring	sprang	will spring
strive	strove	will strive
swim	swam	will swim
take	took	will take
teach	taught	will teach
tear	tore	will tear
throw	threw	will throw
wake	woke or waked	will wake
wear	wore	will wear
write	wrote	will write