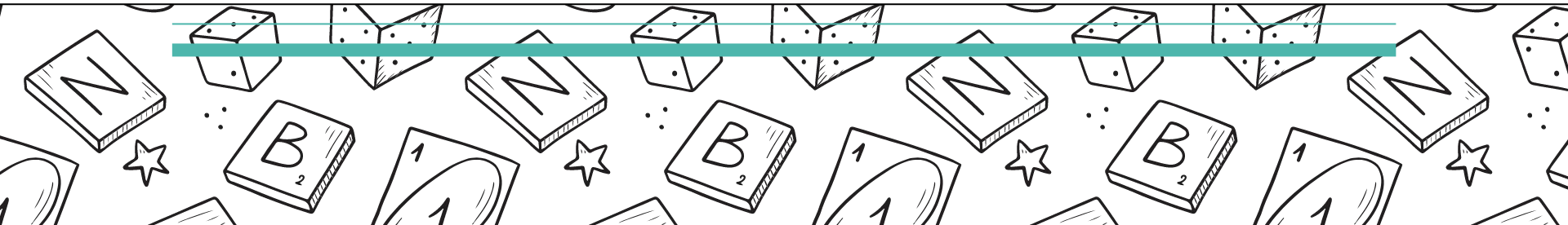
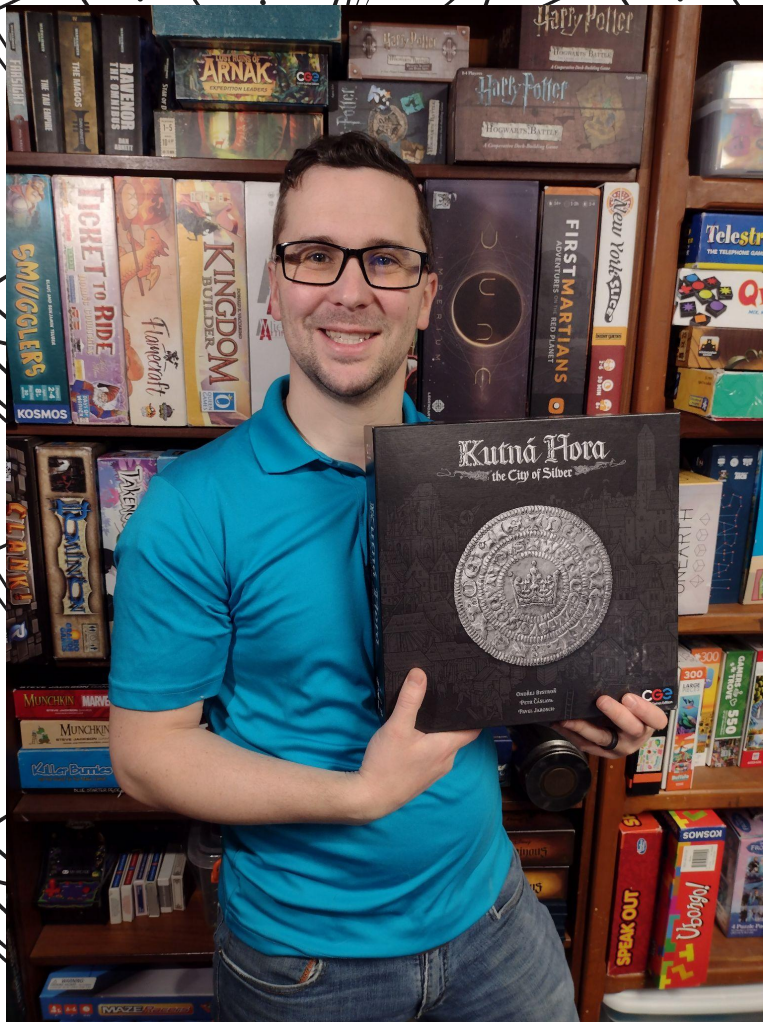




Board Games as an Educational Tool

Great Plains Gaming Project





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Mission

Building community
through board
gaming

Vision

To grow a vibrant
and inclusive
community where
board gaming is
embraced to foster
strong social
connections and
nurture critical
thinking.

Values

D . I . C . E .

Development,
Inclusivity, Community
& Enjoyment

Icebreaker Questions

What is a board game you like playing?

Why do you enjoy playing it?



Why Board Games?



Why Play Works

by Jill Vialet

“Although [play is] frequently dismissed as frivolous, nothing could be further from the truth. Play is the antidote to disconnection, isolation, fear, distrust, and despair. It can help in mitigating trauma while building the confidence and resilience essential to navigating risk. It is a source of joy that facilitates understanding across difference. It taps our intrinsic motivation, teaches us to deal with the unexpected, and sparks creativity. Play is where we learn the changemaking skills—the everyday, inclusive leadership skills...”

Terminology

Tabletop Game - a game that can be played on a flat surface such as a table

Card Game - a game that uses deck(s) of cards without a board

Board Game - a game that has a playing board in addition to any other components

We'll use "**board game**" to discuss all of these.



Theme vs. Gameplay



Theme vs. Gameplay



The background is a dense, repeating pattern of hand-drawn board game components. It includes various dice (d4, d6, d8, d12), cards with numbers and symbols, tokens like stars and cones, and rectangular pieces with numbers or letters. The drawings are simple and sketchy, using black outlines on a white background. A teal rectangle is centered over the pattern, containing the text.

Starter Board Game Library



Starter Board Game Library

Each game in this list was selected because they represent a good variety of “beginner” games.

These are meant to be representative of a variety of different styles of play and game mechanics. Most of the games are simpler to learn and easy to teach others.

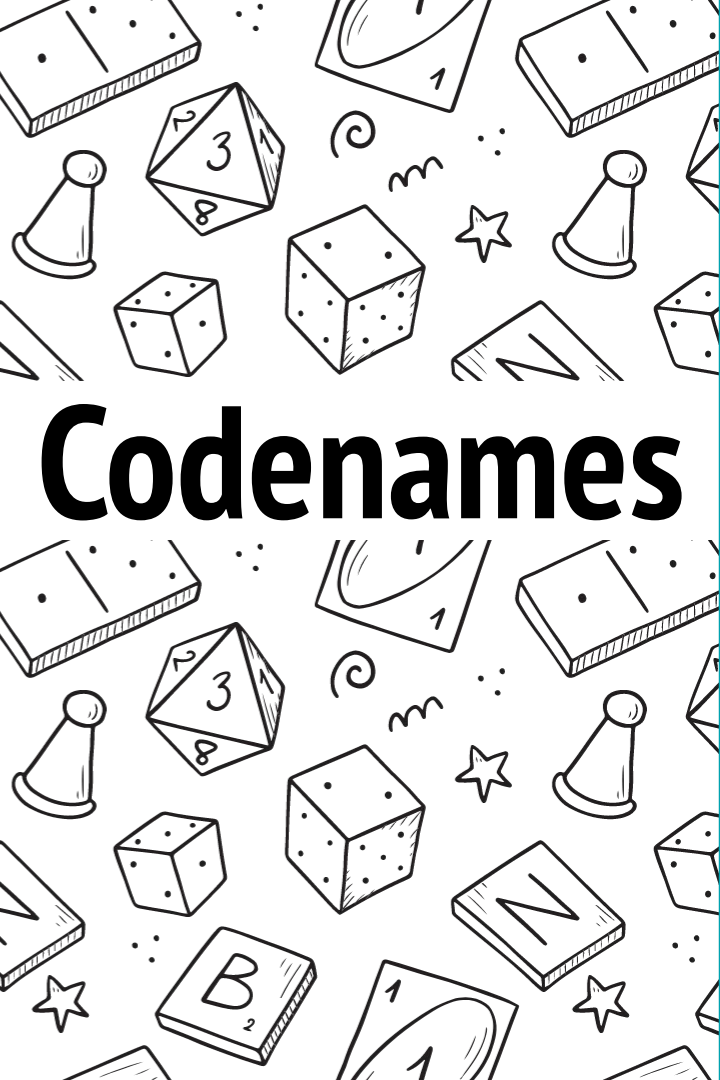
Handouts:

- Quick-Play Guide
- Lesson Plan

Sushi Go!



Codenames



Bananagrams



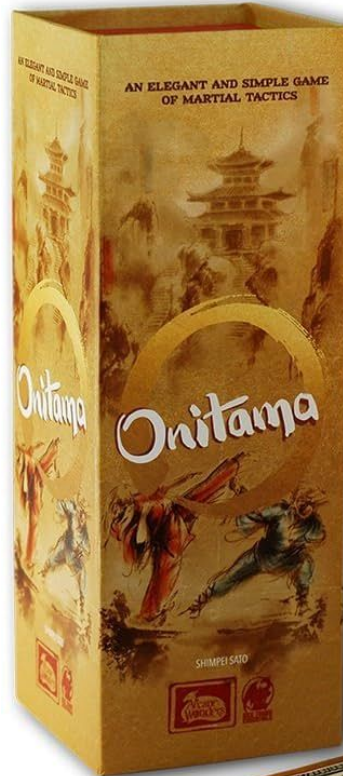
Ticket to Ride



Forbidden Island



Onitama



Jack's Friends





Subject-Based Resource Series



“The Science Behind” Handouts

These were created as the first in a subject-based resource series.

Calvert Elementary hosted a Science Night on Fri, Mar 1st and we partnered with them to run a game room.

Handouts:

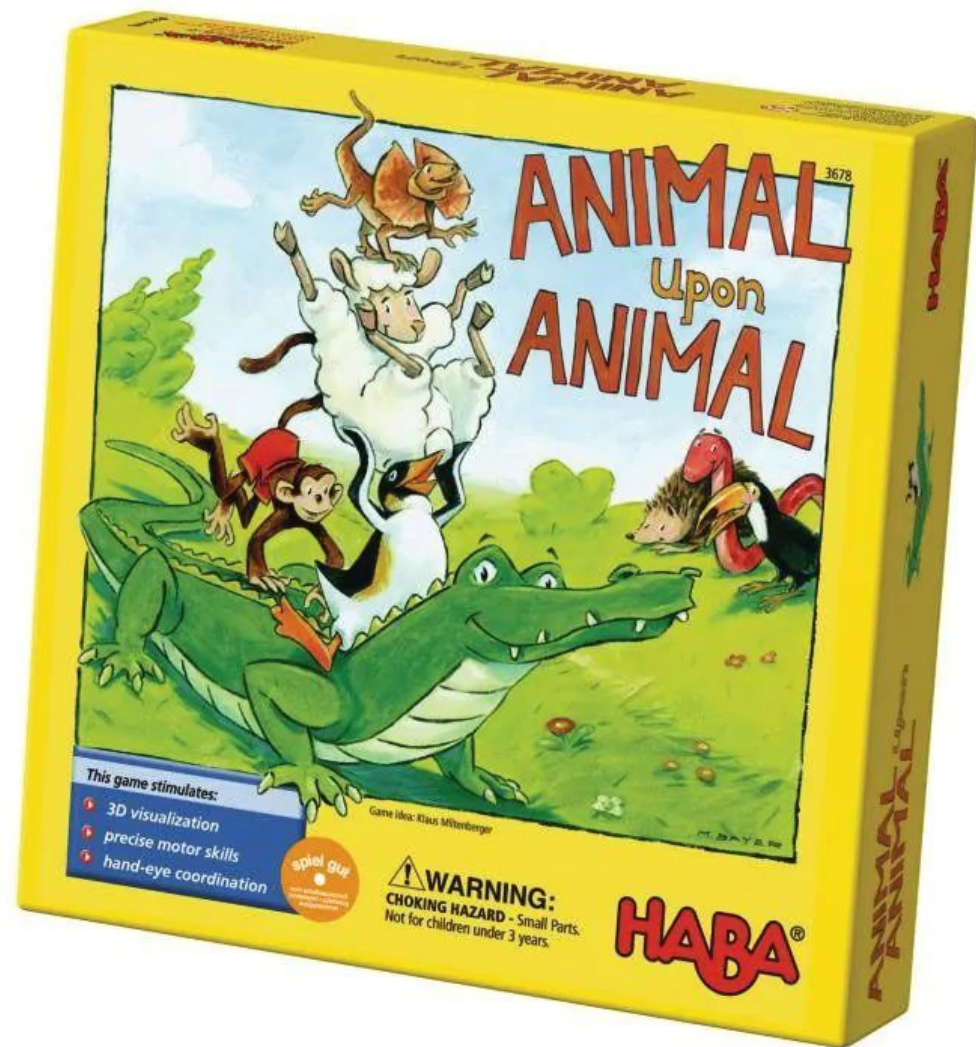
- The Science Behind _____
- Science Questions to Ask When Playing _____

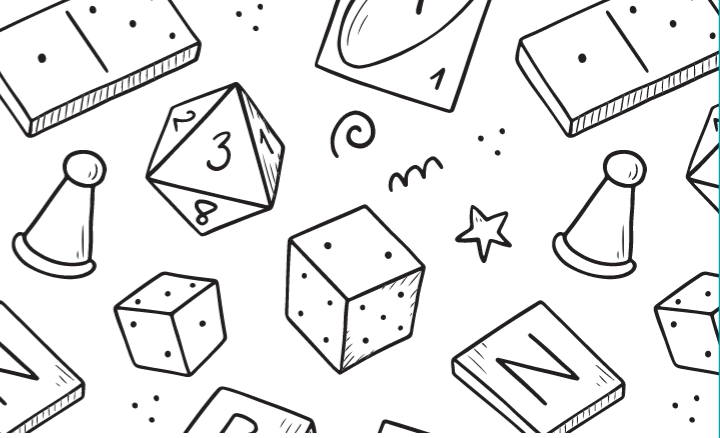
Coming: ELA, Math, Social Studies, Art

Operation

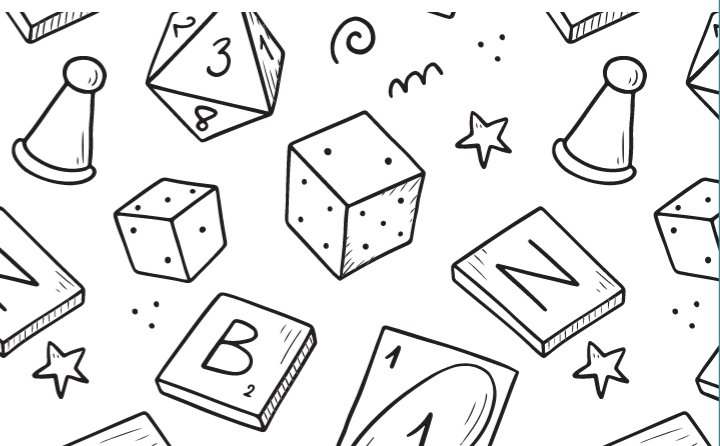


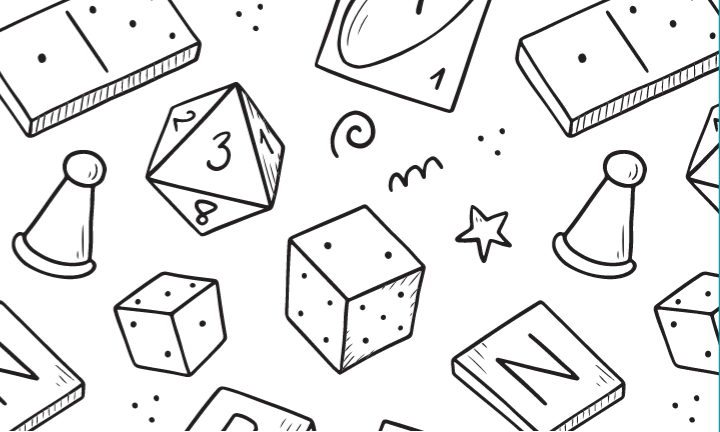
Animal Upon Animal



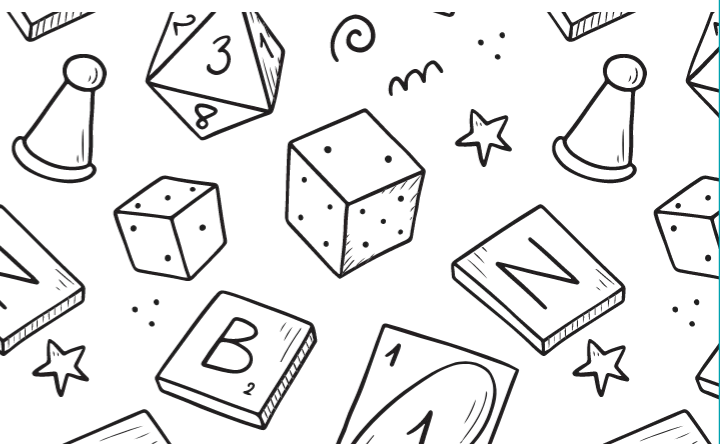


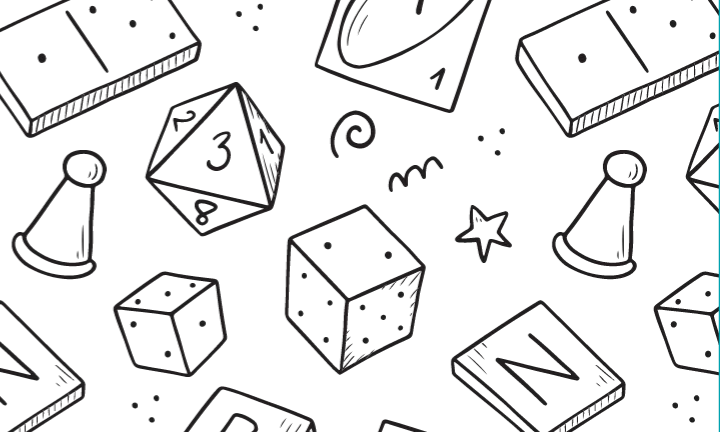
Eleminis



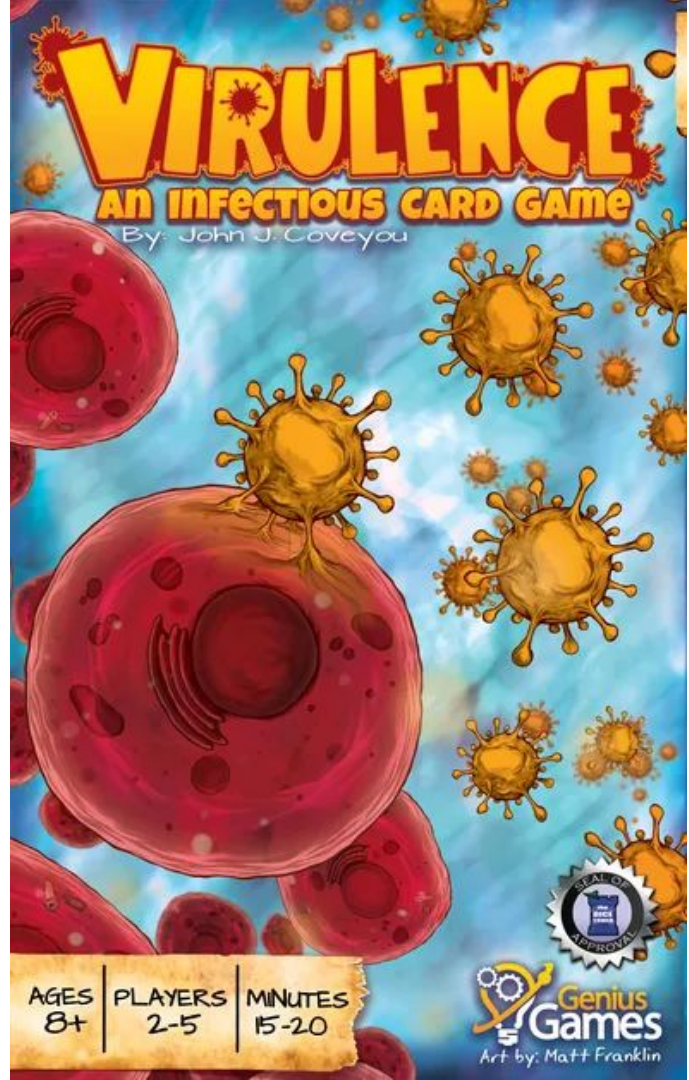
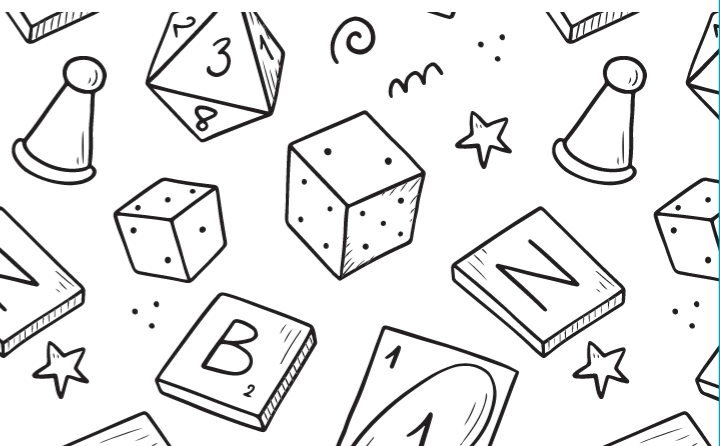


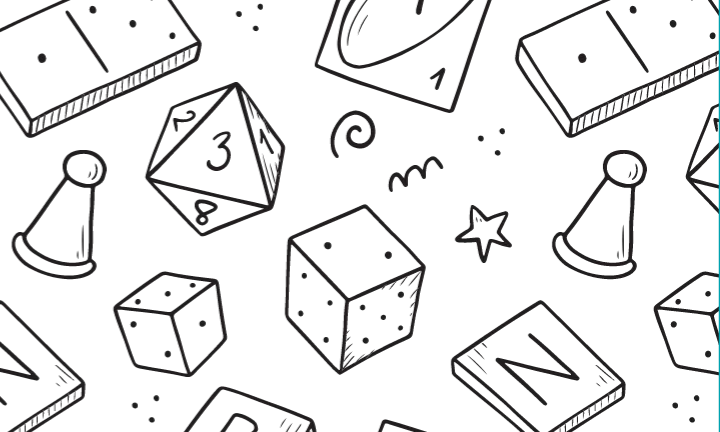
Herbaceous





Virulence





Ion

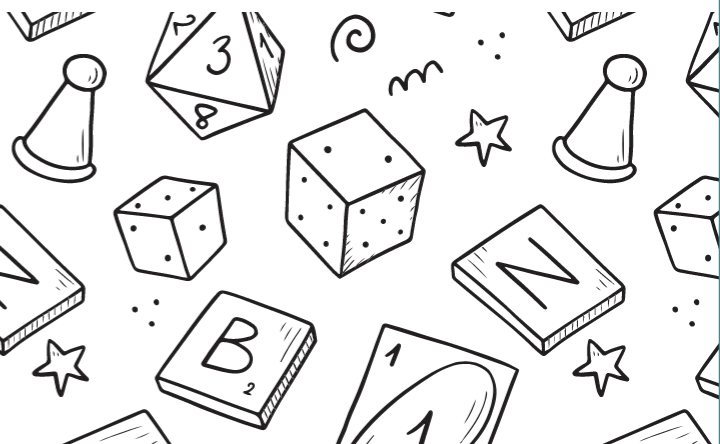


Table Discussions

1. What game do you have?
2. What educational concepts can be taught using the game?
3. Is that concept supported by the theme, game play, or both?
4. What educational situations might you be able to use this game?

The background is a dense, repeating pattern of hand-drawn, black-and-white line art illustrations of various game components. These include: dominoes with dots and numbers; dice with faces showing numbers like 1, 2, 3, and 4; cards with numbers and symbols; pawns on a board; and stars. The central text is overlaid on a solid teal square.

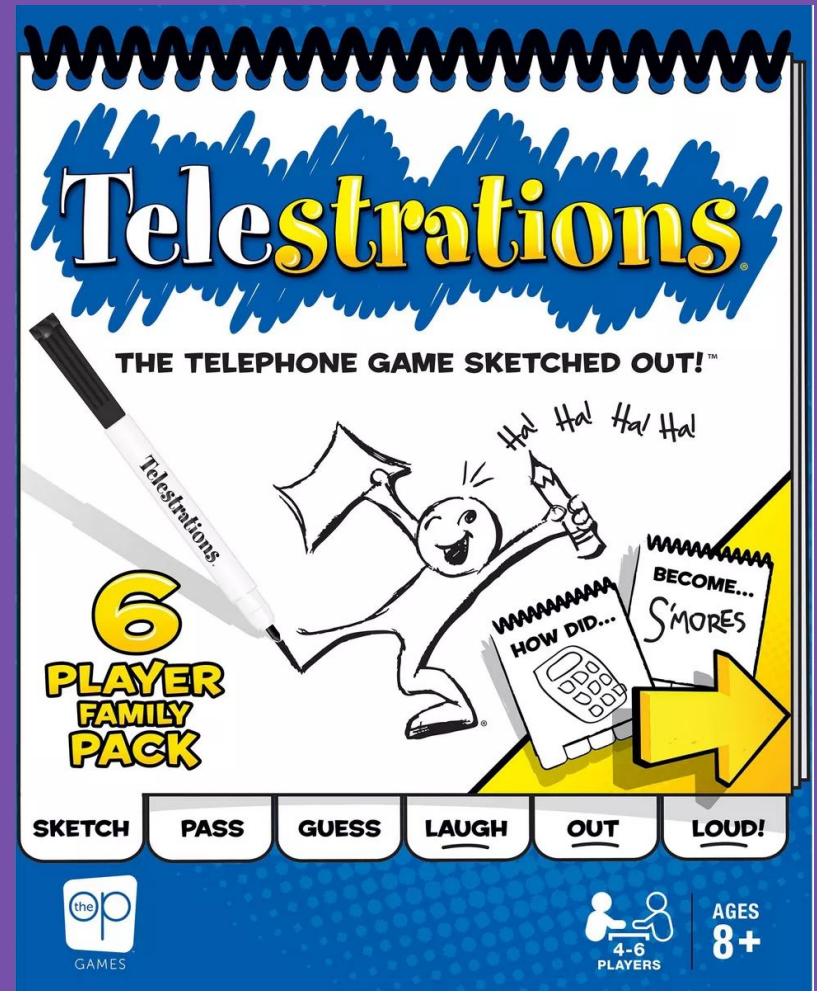
**Let's Play a
Game!**

Telestrations

Supplies Needed:

- 1 piece of paper
- A writing utensil

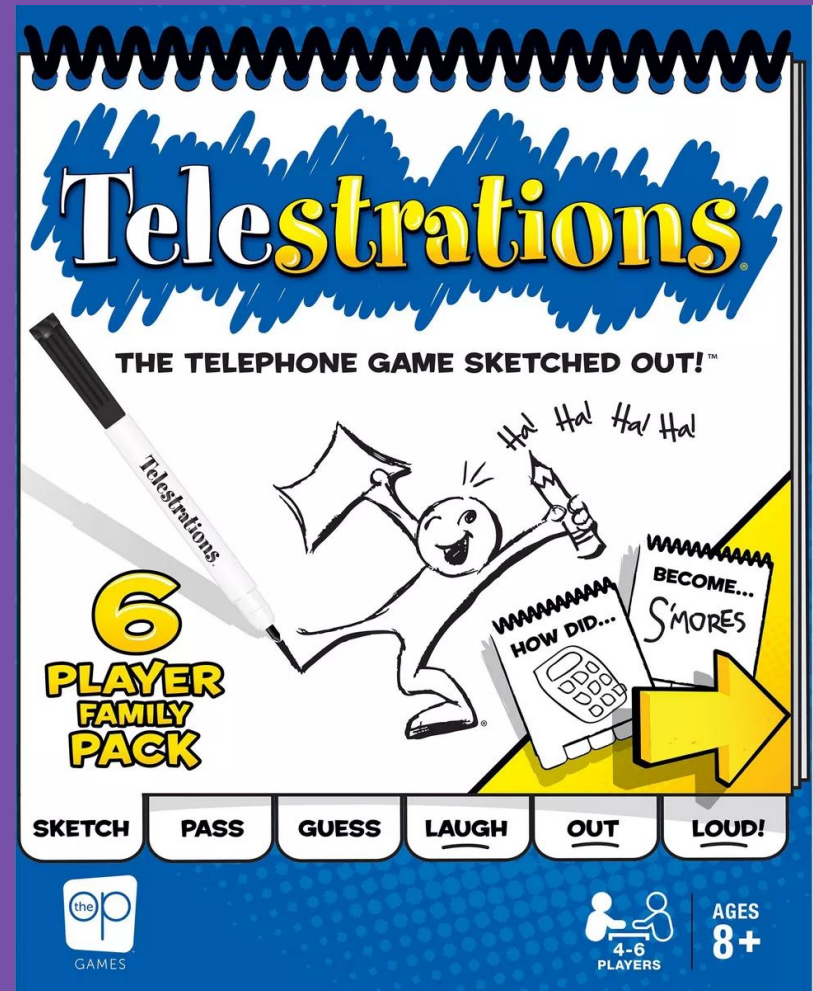
The “Telephone Game”
+ “Pictionary”



Telestrations

How to Play:

1. Write a word/phrase
2. Pass the paper
3. Draw the word/phrase
4. Fold the paper back so only the drawing is showing.
5. Pass the paper
6. Write a word/phrase based on the drawing.
7. Fold the paper back.
8. Repeat.



Telestrations Discussion

1. What game do you have?
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3. Is that concept supported by the theme, game play, or both?
4. What educational situations might you be able to use this game?

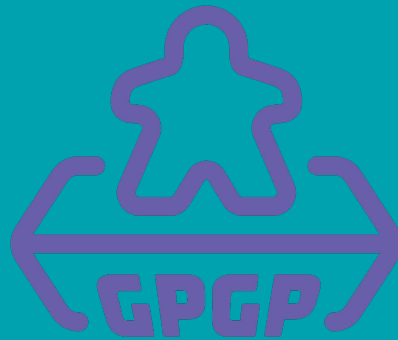


Final Thoughts

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Thanks!

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