

Steps to play the...

Expressive Dialogue Game

to discover how vocal choices change meaning

Timing

5-10 minutes

Space

Kids facing each other in two groups

Additional supports

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1. Model the game:

With another adult or a student.

Sample script (1 minute)

- **Model A & B-** I'm A. I go first and my line is, "I want pizza". My partner is B. They go second and say, "We're out of cheese!" Let's try it! A: I want pizza. B: We're out of cheese!
- **Model with prompts-** Now I'll say it like I'm excited & my partner will be furious. A: I want pizza B: We're out of cheese!

Tip for step 1-

- Model one more time, swapping the A & B prompts, or using totally different prompts, so that kids know they'll be trying various things.

2. Set up & Practice:

Sample Script (1-2 minutes)

- **Set up the groups-** Kids over here are group A. Kids over there are group B. Everyone, turn your bodies to face the other group.
- **Group A practice-** (*Cue group A*) Say "I want pizza!!"
- **Group B practice-** (*Cue group B*) Say "We're out of cheese!"

Tip for step 2-

- Practice as many times as they need to get the hang of speaking in unison before adding on the vocal expression prompts.

Continued...

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3. Play the game:

Sample Script (1-2 minute per pair of prompts)

- **Assign each group a prompt** – Group A, you'll say it like you're miserable. Group B, you'll say it like you're nervous.
 - **Cue group A-** Kids: I want pizza (*miserable voice*)
 - **Cue group B-** Kids: We're out of cheese (*nervous voice*)
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Tip for step 3-

- Try swapping the prompts for group A and B before moving on to the next pair. Try it with a variety of contrasting prompts.
- Sometimes it's helpful to get the prompt in your body before trying to express it vocally.