

Board Games for Language & Pragmatic Skills

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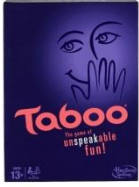


Board games are a beloved pastime of children and adults. So, as a speech-language pathologist, I am always looking for ways to build communication skills through a fun, relaxed and natural process. Board games can be a tool to teach many, many academic and pragmatic skills. We all know that young children learn simple turn-taking from games – which is essential for conversation but there are specific games that can teach many more skills like asking/answering questions, vocabulary, comparing/contrasting, sharing/gathering opinions, critical thinking, problem solving, inferencing, perspective taking, commenting, and the list goes on...

Here you will find top board game picks that can be used to address many language and pragmatic issues for kids elementary aged and up. This list can also be provided to parents to enjoy functional games at home as a family. WARNING! In order to maximize the potential of these games, you will need to get creative by generating your own rules and don't forget to have fun!

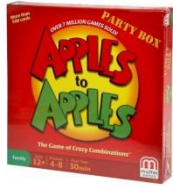
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Taboo & Taboo Jr. (by Hasbro)

- Description
- Categories
- Rapid word naming



Apples to Apples & Apples to Apples Jr. (by Mattel)

- Comparing/contrasting
- Supporting opinion with relevant descriptive detail
- Perspective taking



Say Anything (by North Star)

- Perspective taking
- Language formulation
- Sharing/gathering personal opinion



Oh The Places You'll Go (by Wonder Forge)

- Pragmatic Judgment
- Perspective Taking
- Details to support conclusions



30 Second Mysteries for kids (by University Games)

- Critical Thinking/deductive reasoning
- Predictions based on contextual clues
- Comprehension of unfamiliar, abstract indirect content



In a Pickle (by Gamewright)

- Flexible thinking
- Syntax/language formulation
- Comparing & Contrasting



Should I? or Shouldn't I? What Would Others Think?

Elementary & Middle/High School (By Think Social Publishing)

- Pragmatic Judgment
- Problem Solving
- Perspective Taking

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