

Word Train

Facilitator Information Sheet

This resource was created by the Trinity College Dublin team (Nicole Maiorano, Pia Gardeweg and Katie Moore) for use in the Irish REFUGE-ED pilot site. It was used in the Irish pilot site with a group of approximately 40 children. The information below is a facilitator information sheet with sample activities. It is designed to be used as part of an Interactive Group exercise. The intended audience is children approximately 7 to 8 years old of all migration backgrounds.

Description of activity:

Coming up with and writing down a new word that starts with the last letter of the word that came before it.

Learning objectives:

Strand: Reading and Writing

Understanding: Conventions of print and sentence structure; Vocabulary; Spelling and word study; Phonics, word recognition and word study; phonological and phonemic awareness.

Exploring and using: Writing process and creating text; Handwriting; Comprehension.

Materials needed:

Pens or pencils for writing with

Long piece of paper in the middle of the table for the children to write on OR train template*

Instructions:

1. Ask the children who would like to go first. If no child volunteers, gently select one child or else the facilitator (you) can go first
2. The first person writes any word on the piece of paper
3. The next child then goes and writes a new word on the piece of paper that starts with the last letter of the word that came before

*If using the train template, each child can write their word in a train car

Example: DOG -> GOAT -> TOAST

4. The exercise continues with the turn of the person writing changing each time.

5. The children should be encouraged to help each other if they are stuck with coming up with a word and with spelling words if they are difficult to spell or a child is struggling.

