

The Word Masters Card Game is designed to provide activities where your child uses previously taught phonics skills to spell words. The game includes cards illustrated with a letter or letter combinations and characters called the Fantastic Phonics. Word Masters may be played alone (solitaire) or by more than one player (multiplayer).

The Word Masters Card Game may be introduced once your child is finished with Cycle 3 in Istation Reading. The game includes a Word Masters card deck that contains several letter cards and wild cards. If your child gets a wild card during the game, he or she may have it stand for any letter he or she wants. The game cards are color-coded by cycle. The cycle number appears on the sides of each face card. The point value for each card is printed on the bottom-right corner of the card and may be used for scoring.

Your child should play only with the cards from the cycles he or she may have completed in Istation Reading. For example, if your child is in Cycle 5, he or she should play only with the cards from Cycles 3, 4, and 5. Additional cards are added to the deck as your child completes each cycle in Istation Reading. Your child should not be allowed to use cards from cycles not yet completed.

The Word Masters game cards and scorecards may be printed from the Istation Home website. More information about deck configurations is included in the directions for how to play the Solitaire and Multiplayer Word Masters Card Games.

SOLITAIRE

The player will have a scorecard and a deck of cards.

To begin, the player shuffles the deck of cards. Then the player does the following:

- Places the deck of cards facedown in a stack on a table or desktop.
- Draws 5 cards from the deck to create a hand.
- Tries to spell a word using the cards in his or her hand.

If the player can spell a word using the cards from his or her hand, the player does the following:

- Places the cards to spell a word faceup on the table.
- Writes the word on the first available line of his or her scorecard.
- Creates a **Used Card Pile** with the cards from the spelled word (so that the cards are not used again).
- Draws additional cards from his or her deck until a total of 5 cards are in his or her hand.
- Tries to spell another word using those cards.

If the player spells a word incorrectly, the player does the following:

- Returns all cards used to spell the word to his or her hand.
- Discards one card from his or her hand into a **Discard Pile** (so that the card is not used again).
- Draws a new card from his or her deck.
- Tries to spell another word using those cards.

If the player cannot spell a word, the player does the following:

SOLITAIRE (cont.)

- Discards one card from his or her hand into a Discard Pile (so that the card is not used again).
- Draws a new card from his or her deck.
- Tries to spell a word using those cards.

The game ends when the player has no remaining cards in his or her deck and cannot spell a word with the remaining cards in his or her hand.

SCORING

When possible, check scorecards for misspelled words. *Cards used for misspelled words are removed from the Used Card Pile before a player determines his or her score.*

Scoring may be determined in either of two ways:

- Total Number of Cards in the Used Card Pile (NOT the Discard Pile) – A player determines his or her score by counting the total number of cards used to spell words correctly (counting the cards in the Used Card Pile).
- Total Number of Points – A player adds the total number of points on all cards in the Used Card Pile. Point values are also recorded next to each word on the scorecard. A player may add the point values on the scorecard to determine a score.

MULTIPLAYER

Each player will have a scorecard and a deck of cards. Players will take turns. Players decide who will go first, second, third, etc., and will continue in the same order until the game ends. The game ends when any player has no cards remaining in his or her deck and cannot spell a word with the cards in his or her hand. At that point, the remaining players have a last turn to spell a word with their cards.

To begin, each player shuffles his or her deck of cards. Then each player does the following:

- Places his or her deck of cards facedown in a stack on a table or desktop.
- Draws 5 cards from his or her deck to create a hand.
- Begins playing the game as the first player tries to spell a word.

If the player can spell a word using the cards from his or her hand, the player does the following:

- Places the cards to spell a word faceup on the table.
- Has other players determine whether the word is spelled correctly.
- Writes the word on the first available line of his or her scorecard.
- Creates a **Used Card Pile** with the cards from the spelled word (so that the cards are not used again).
- Draws additional cards from his or her deck until a total of 5 cards are in his or her hand.
- Stops and observes the next player's turn.

MULTIPLAYER (cont.)**If the word is spelled incorrectly, the player does the following:**

- Returns the cards to his or her hand.
- Discards one card from his or her hand into his or her **Discard Pile** (so that the card is not used again).
- Draws one new card from his or her deck.
- Stops and observes the next player's turn.

If the player cannot spell a word, the player does the following:

- Discards one card from his or her hand into his or her Discard Pile (so that the card is not used again).
- Draws a new card from his or her deck.
- Stops and observes the next player's turn.

SCORING

When possible, check scorecards for misspelled words. *Cards used for misspelled words are removed from the Used Card Pile before a player determines his or her score.*

Scoring may be determined in either of two ways:

- Total Number of Cards in the Used Card Pile (NOT the Discard Pile) – Each player determines his or her score by counting the total number of cards used to spell words correctly (counting the cards in the Used Card Pile).
- Total Number of Points – Each player adds the total number of points on all cards in the Used Card Pile. Point values are also recorded next to each word on the scorecard. The point values on the scorecard can be added together.