

Fifty-Fifty

Players: 2

Skill: Spelling, word play, vocabulary

Grade level: 4-8

Supplies: Word cards, one standard die, answer key, paper and pencil to keep score.

To play:

1. Print out our word cards and laminate if you like. Or, make your own word cards. (Our cards contain words from our 4th-5th grade lists. It's best to choose words that aren't too long.) Print the answer key for the teacher to keep at her desk as a reference.
 2. Cut out the cards, shuffle, and place face down on the table.
 3. Player 1 turns over a card and rolls the die.
 4. He tries to form a new word, following these guidelines:
 - If a 1 or 2 is rolled, add one letter to the word and earn 2 points
 - If a 3 or 4 is rolled, subtract a letter from the word and earn 4 points
 - If a 5 is rolled, change one letter to make another word and earn 5 points
 - If a 6 is rolled, rearrange all the letters in the word and earn 6 points
- To earn points, the player must also use the new word correctly in a sentence.**
5. Each time a player forms a new word, he may rearrange the letters in the original word. Note: It is not *always* possible to form a new word.
 6. Player 2 takes his turn in the same manner.
 7. If a player is unable to form a new word following the guidelines above, he receives no points for that turn, and the other player takes his turn.
 8. If a player draws LOSE A TURN, he does not make a new word on that turn.
 9. If a player draws TAKE AN EXTRA TURN, he draws a word card, rolls a die, and earns points. Then he draws a second card, rolls and scores again.
 10. Play continues until someone scores 50 points. The first player to 50 points wins.

Examples:

Player 1 draws the word QUIET and rolls a 3. He subtracts the E and spells QUIT. He receives 4 points.

Player 2 draws the word COUCH and rolls a 1. She adds an R and spells CROUCH. She receives 2 points.

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Word Cards

Take an extra turn.	Lose a turn.	felt	loyal
quiet	dawn	spare	planet
aunt	earth	drain	fear
steal	couch	soil	tool
cause	soften	radio	could
split	raise	sport	paint
state	though	wreck	circle
earn	coin	guest	listen

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Sample answers – Others are also possible

Word card	1-2 Add a letter	3-4 Subtract a letter	5 Change a letter	6 Rearrange the letters
felt	felts	let	feet	---
loyal	alloys	---	allow	alloy
quiet	quiets	quit	quilt	quite
dawn	dawns	wad	lawn	wand
spare	spared	spar	spire	pares
planet	planets	plane	panels	---
aunt	taunt	ant	nuts	tuna
earth	hearth	tear	there	heart
drain	drains	rain	train	---
fear	fears	ear	wear	---
steal	steals	seal	steak	least
couch	crouch	ouch	touch	---
soil	spoil	oil	foil	oils
tool	stool	too	took	loot
cause	clause	case	pause	sauce
soften	softens	often	softer	---
radio	radios	arid	ratio	---

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Sample answers - continued

Word card	1-2 Add a letter	3-4 Subtract a letter	5 Change a letter	6 Rearrange the letters
could	---	loud	would	cloud
split	splint	slit	slits	spilt
raise	praise	rise	rinse	arise
sport	sports	port	short	ports
paint	paints	pint	point	---
state	estate	seat	slate	taste
though	through	ought	trough	---
wreck	wrecks	crew	creek	---
circle	circles	---	icicle	cleric
earn	learn	ear	hear	near
coin	coins	---	corn	icon
guest	guests	suet	guess	---
listen	glisten	tiles	listed	silent, enlist