

PIRATE SHIPS!

Find & Capture Sight Words



FREE!

play in pairs & use any words

PIRATE SHIPS!

This game is based on the old 'Sink the Ship' game, where you have to find the opponent's 'ships' to sink them. I made a **TREASURE HUNT VERSION** 3 years ago and decided it was time for a makeover!

Instead of using coordinates to find the chosen squares I have individually numbered all the squares. This is for 3 reasons:

- Young children can find the concept of coordinates quite difficult which can distract rather than add to the game.
- It generally takes longer to find coordinates than a number which can take a child's focus off the sight words so that they're thinking more about the actual game board than the words.
- **RESEARCH HAS SHOWN** that dealing with the numbers in this format adds a side benefit of consolidating number sense.

Preparation

1. Print off two game boards onto coloured cardstock.
2. Laminate them so kids can write on them and erase at the end of each game.
3. They need to be folded in half so that the 'Enemy Pirate Ships' section sits flat on the table and the 'My Pirate Ships' section points up in the air.
4. Have some paper clips handy so when you're ready to play the two boards can be placed back-to-back and held together with the clips.
5. If you would like your kids to write their words on separate slips of paper (pirate ships) print off the final page and cut the strips into 3, 4 or 5 letter word strips. Using different coloured paper can brighten the game. You'll need some blu-tac, too, if you're doing it this way.

Playing the game

1. Each child decides on the sight (or other) words they want to use in the game. Each pair agree upon how many there will be.
2. The two children (or groups) might like to sit away from each other while they prepare their own board.
3. Using dry erase markers they write their chosen words on their 'My Pirate Ships' grid **OR** they write the words on the paper ships and then blu-tac them in place on the board.
4. Once both boards are ready, they are placed back to back and held in place with paper clips.

5. One side says a number from 1-50. The other child looks at their sight words grid. If that numbered space is empty they could say 'aarhh...no' like a pirate, if there is a letter they need to say what the letter is. The other child crosses out that space on their 'Enemy Pirate Ships' grid so they remember it's blank **OR** writes in the letter.
6. They take it in turns to ask about a new square, the goal being to uncover the words hiding there.
7. When a player discovers a whole word, they say the word and it means that ship has sunk! If using the paper 'ships' the player can remove the 'sunk' ship and pass it to the other player to keep track of how many ships they've sunk.
8. The winner is the player who sinks all the other player's ships first!

A note with numbers: if your kids are still learning their numbers above ten it's perfectly fine for them to say '3 and 2' for 32 as it will help them understand tens and ones and how they fit together on a number line.

I hope you and your children enjoy this game and I wish you happy teaching and learning!

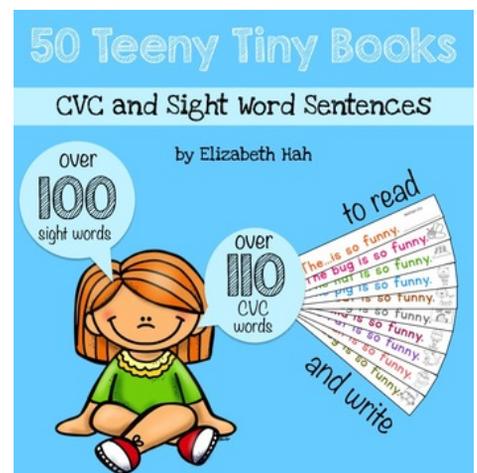
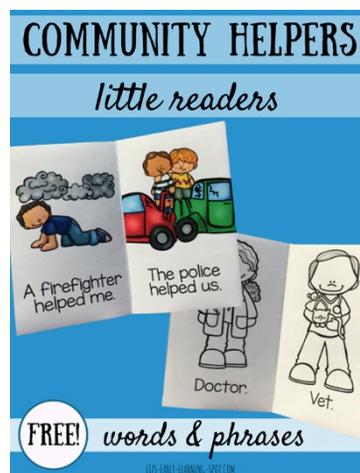
If you have any questions you can contact me at lizearlylearningspot@gmail.com

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Liz



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My Pirate Ships!



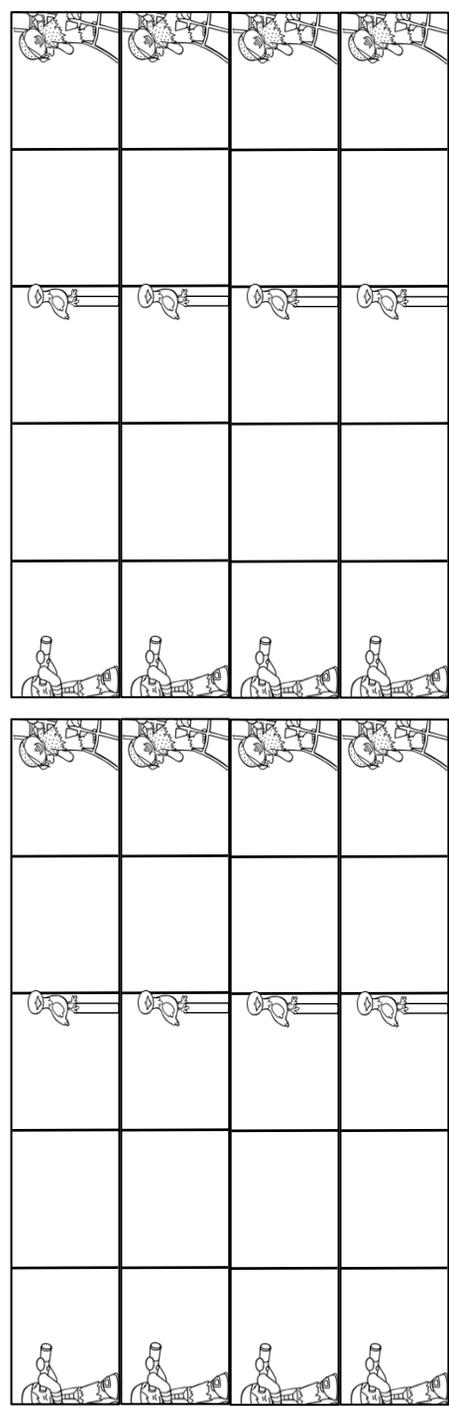
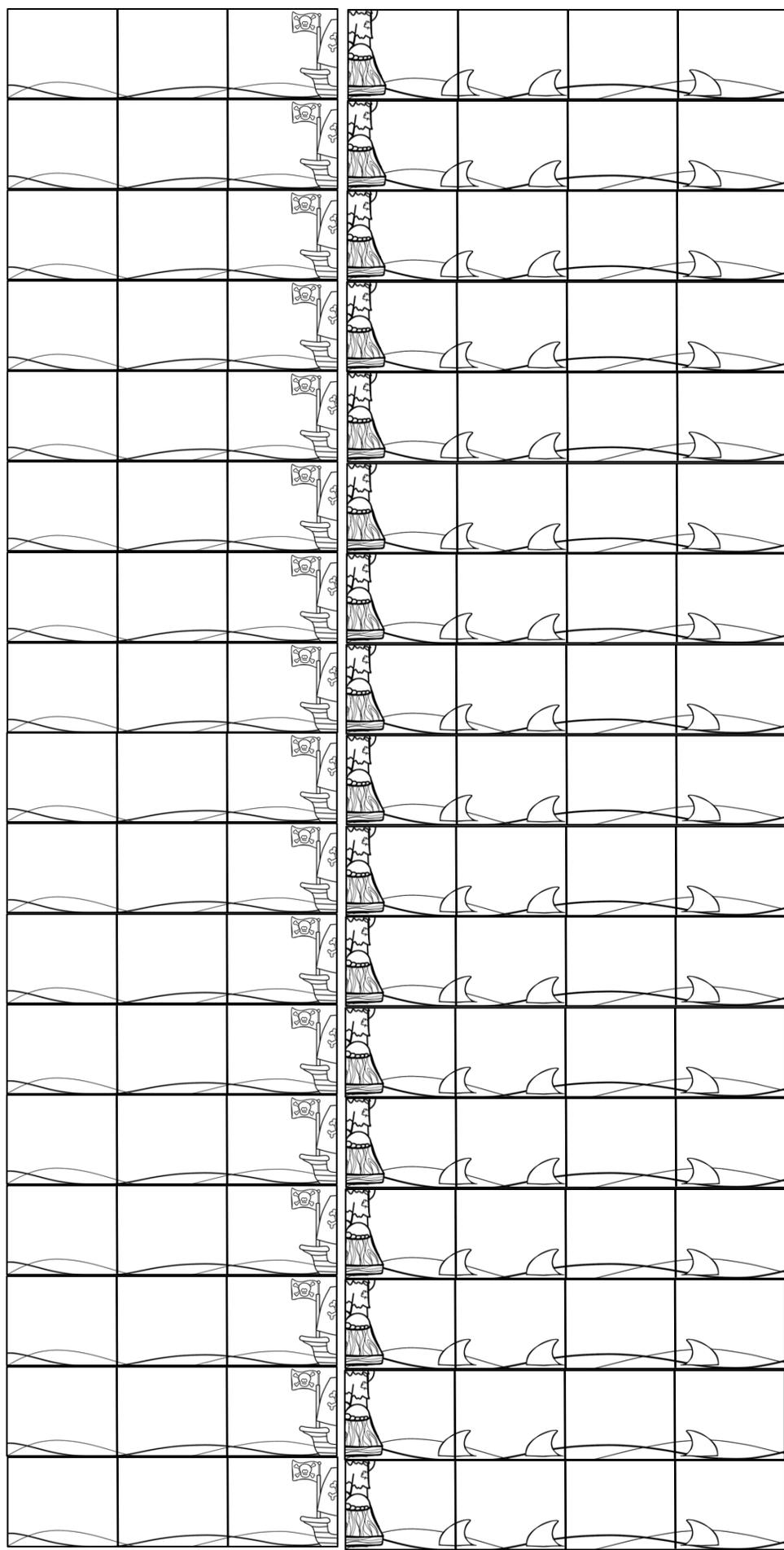
| | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 41 | 42 | 43 | 44 | 45 | 46 | 47 | 48 | 49 | 50 |
| 31 | 32 | 33 | 34 | 35 | 36 | 37 | 38 | 39 | 40 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |



Enemy Pirate Ships



| | | | | | | | | | |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| 41 | 42 | 43 | 44 | 45 | 46 | 47 | 48 | 49 | 50 |
| 31 | 32 | 33 | 34 | 35 | 36 | 37 | 38 | 39 | 40 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |



3,4 & 5 word
'ships.'