

Turning SCRABBLE Game tiles into art

Overview

This activity was designed to meet the needs of gifted children for extension beyond the standard curriculum with the greatest ease of use for the educator. The activities may be given to the students for individual self-guided work, or they may be taught in a classroom or a home-school setting. This particular activity may be primarily effective in a classroom setting. Assessment strategies and rubrics are included. This activity was developed by Jamie Uphold, American Mensa's Gifted Youth Programs Manager. Contact her at giftedprogram@americanmensa.org.



Introduction

The game of Scrabble is an intellectual delight loved by many. It is not uncommon to find word tiles outside of the game box if you play on a regular basis. You can also purchase just the tiles now at most craft stores so we decided to see what all you can make out of loose Scrabble game tiles.

Supplies needed

- Scrabble tiles
- Key ring
- 24-inch length of twine or jewelry cord
- Glue gun or liquid adhesive of choice
- Magnets
- Cork backing for coasters
- Picture frames to dress up
- Popsicle sticks for garden markers

Make a name chain for keyring or backpack

You will need two sets of tiles that spell out the name you want

- A key ring
- 24-inch length of twine or jewelry cord
- Glue



Loop your twine through the keyring with a slipknot. Set the two sets of letters making the name on either side of the cord. Turn one set of tiles over and place a liberal amount of glue on them. Place a small amount of glue between them to ensure they stay together.



Place the keyring at the top of the name tiles and lay the cord down through the center of each tile in the glue. Now place the second set of tiles on the top of the first set, securing the cord between them. Press them all together to ensure they are snug and aligned. Allow to dry completely on its side to prevent it sticking to your work surface.



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In exchange for compensation, Mensa reviewed the Scrabble game to create this activity plan.

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Dishwasher magnets

Do you hate not knowing if the dishes in the dishwasher are clean or not? With this easy fix you will never question again.

You will need:

- A magnet – flat works best
- Glue gun or adhesive
- Tiles that spell “clean” and “dirty”

Spell out your words, then flip your tiles over so you can make sure they are all in the right direction. Be sure your magnet is the right length for your words, and trim it if necessary.

Pick your tiles up one at a time, place a small amount of glue on each, and press it to the magnet. Once you finish one word, turn your magnet around and repeat the process with your next word.



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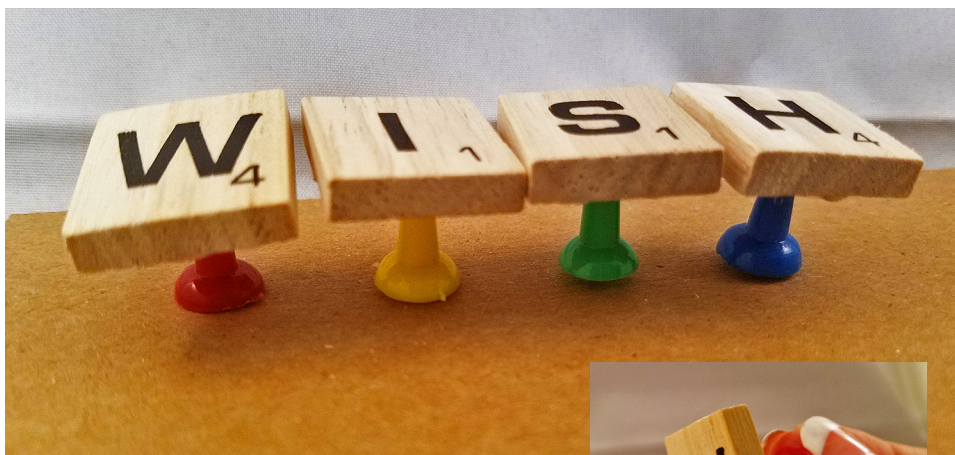
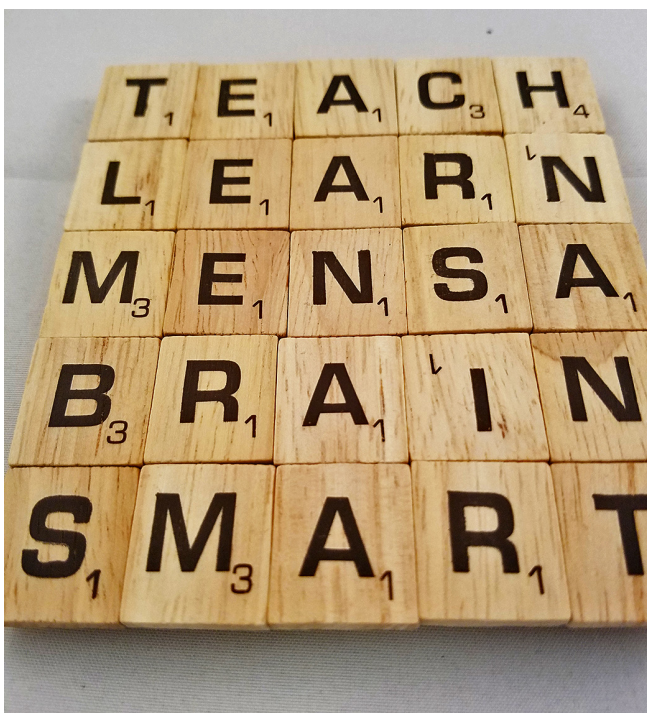
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Coasters

Create your own unique coasters for your office or home. You will need:

- Cork backing
- Scrabble tiles to make the words you want
- Glue gun or adhesive

Measure the size coaster you want. Spell out and arrange the words you want on your coasters, or just freely place tiles in the correct size for the cork backing. Pick up a tile and place a small amount of glue on it and place it on the cork pad. Make sure to add a little glue to the edges as you place tiles next to each other to help secure them. Continue to do the same until you have completed the coaster.



Push Pins

You will need:

- Push pins
- Scrabble tiles
- Glue gun or adhesive

Pick the tiles you want and glue them to the tops of the push pins. Allow to dry.



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Dress up a picture frame

Personalize a picture frame with scrabble tiles. You will need:

- A picture frame
- Scrabble tiles to spell out the words you want
- Glue gun or adhesive

Use the tiles to spell out names or a message on the glass of your picture frame for your favorite photo.

Garden markers

You will need:

- Wooden craft sticks
- Scrabble tiles to spell your plant names
- Glue gun or adhesive

Place the Scrabble tiles in a row on your craft stick to ensure that it will be long enough. Then simply apply a bit of glue to the back of each letter and adhere it to the craft stick.

Make sure to add some glue to the bottom of each letter (except the last one) to help them stick together.



Ornament for holiday tree

You will need:

- Scrabble tiles that spell what you want
- Ribbon or hanger
- Cardboard or paper plate for backing
- Glue gun or adhesive
- Optional – felt, ribbon, or fabric to cover the back



Spell out your word or phrase. Trace an outline on the cardboard or paper plate, then cut it out just smaller than the outline. Glue each tile to backing and allow to dry. Attach a small piece of ribbon or a metal ornament hanger to the back. If you want, use the felt, ribbon, or other material to cover the back where the cardboard or paper plate is showing.

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