



**How to make:** Decorate the bulletin board with fish and other sea life, and title it “Catch the Octopus.” Make a large octopus body from green paper, and mount it on the board. Cut out eight octopus legs from green paper. Make three pockets from folders, and staple them to the bottom of the bulletin board. Label one pocket *octopus legs*, and store the eight legs in it. Write a different Basic Word on each of twenty cards, and store them in another pocket. Fill the third pocket with squares of white paper (about 3" × 3").

**How to use:** Students play this game like Hangman. One player takes a Basic Word from the pocket. He or she counts the letters in the word and pins that many squares to the bulletin board. Others guess letters in the word. The player who chose the word writes the letters on the squares where they belong. When someone chooses a letter that is not in the word, a leg is attached to the octopus body. Play continues until the word is guessed. If all eight legs are hung before the word is guessed, the octopus “escapes.” If the word is guessed before the octopus is complete, the octopus is “caught.” Keep score as shown.