



How to make: Title the bulletin board "Connect-A-Word." Provide word cards for all of the Basic Words in Units 25–29. Have students separate the words into groups by number of letters (3–14 letters in words). Then divide the word cards into 4 manila envelopes, labeled as shown, and staple the envelopes to the bulletin board. Also provide long, blank cards and pencils for students to write the words they have drawn from the envelopes.

How to use: Select a long word to begin the bulletin board activity. Print the word on a blank card and tack it to the center of the board. Students should take turns selecting a word of any length they choose and printing it on a blank word card horizontally or vertically as needed to overlap words already on the board. Letters should be equally spaced so that crossed words can be formed. At least one letter of each new word must overlap a letter in a word already on the board. As students add words, they build a crossword puzzle.

Students score 1 point for each 3-letter word they tack up, 2 points for each 4-letter word, and so on. One student acts as the scorekeeper and tallies students' points on a sheet tacked to the bulletin board. Students continue adding words in this manner until either they select a word that does not fit the crossword puzzle or they run out of space.