

# Category Countdown

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Grades K–2 • 5–10 min • 4+ students

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## WHAT YOU NEED

- None

## SETUP

No setup needed; works standing, seated, or in a circle.

## HOW TO RUN IT

1. Call a simple category ("things that are cold," "animals with four legs," "words that rhyme with cat").
2. Point to a student, who has 5 seconds (counted out loud by the class) to name something that fits.
3. If they succeed, point to the next student for a new item in the same category; if they're stuck, move on kindly and keep the energy up.
4. Switch categories every 6–8 turns to keep it fresh.

## VARIATIONS

- Use it as a two-minute filler between activities — it needs zero setup and can start or stop instantly.
- Tie categories to a book or unit the class just finished ("things that happened in chapter 3").