

Make-Believe Dictionary

3-12 players / Print single-sided on US Letter at 100%.

You need: pencils, small paper slips, scissors, 2-minute timer.

Print both pages once. Cut the six word cards on page 2 and keep them face down. Use scrap paper for decoys and votes.

- 01 These words and their official meanings are invented for this game. None is a fact to learn. Make 3-6 players or teams: individual players, or pairs and trios for 7-12 people.
- 02 Each player or team hosts once. If anyone prefers not to host, decide before starting to play without totals; willing hosts can take turns. Otherwise start with a willing host and rotate. The host takes an unseen card, reads only the word, and keeps the meaning hidden. The host submits no decoy and casts no vote.
- 03 Other players or teams have two minutes to invent a fictional meaning of at most ten words. Write it on a slip and give it to the host; a blank is a pass.
- 04 The host recopies all meanings onto identical slips in the same handwriting. Merge identical meanings, noting their authors; an exact official match joins the official option. If fewer than two distinct false meanings remain, reveal the answer as unscored practice. Otherwise shuffle, label A onward and read all options twice without comments.
- 05 Each non-host player or team privately votes for one option, or leaves its vote blank. Do not vote for your own decoy. If your decoy exactly matches the official meaning, the host quietly tells you; sit out the vote and earn one point in a scored round, with no decoy points.
- 06 Reveal the official meaning. Each correct voter earns one point. Each wrong vote earns one point for the decoy's author; if authors submitted identical decoys, each earns that point. A wrong vote or pass never deducts points. The host earns none.
- 07 Keep totals on scrap paper. After every player or team has hosted once, most points wins; tied totals share the win. Anyone may pass writing, voting or hosting. If a player or team declines hosting after scoring has begun, finish without totals or a declared winner so nobody gains extra scoring turns.

Make 3-6 pairs or trios; each player or team hosts once and shares its decoy, vote and score. Seven people make two pairs and one trio.

A dictionary from nowhere

All six words and meanings are fictional. Cut apart and keep face down. The host reads only the word.

01 plimblet FICTIONAL OFFICIAL MEANING A tiny umbrella used by mushrooms during fog.	02 zorvickle FICTIONAL OFFICIAL MEANING The squeak a cloud makes when it changes direction.
03 marnooka FICTIONAL OFFICIAL MEANING A library shelf reserved for books written by moths.	04 tessiflop FICTIONAL OFFICIAL MEANING A ceremonial bow performed by an especially polite sock.
05 vondleek FICTIONAL OFFICIAL MEANING A bell rung when a snail finishes a painting.	06 quibbalo FICTIONAL OFFICIAL MEANING A suitcase that packs only imaginary souvenirs.

Do not show the official meaning until all votes are committed.
