

Months and colours mix and match

Instructions for teachers

There are three versions of this activity. The first one is given on one page to save paper and photocopying. The second version is on cards to make it more flexible and to make matching up a more physical activity. However, the mix or match activity is usually best done as a whole book, with each page cut into flaps which are turned separately to make good and bad matches. This makes it similar to the many mix and match books in which the reader makes people, monsters, etc with odd matches of head, body and legs, like the classic drawing game Consequences.

There are also a few possible activities, but the best is usually to get one student to make a wrong, funny or crazy match and then for one or more other students to make it more correct/ more sensible, while keeping as many parts the same as they can. All the months have at least one sensible match and at least one silly match, but note that some of the colours don't go well with any of the other cards.

To make a book, you need to staple the pages together on one side, perhaps after adding a cover, and then cut along the dotted lines. You could also add suitable pictures to some or all flaps, but doing it without pictures means that students will have to concentrate more on the meaning of the words.

After reading, students could draw suitable pictures on their own copy of the book. Another option is for each student to draw one picture of their favourite silly combination, instead of drawing pictures for every page.

They could also make their own versions of this mix and match activity, perhaps keeping the same starters but changing the other columns/ cards/ flaps.

Single-page version

Make a wrong sentence from the words in the columns below and see if your partner can make it true by changing the words in only one or two columns.

In January	Santa's clothes	are black.
In February	the Valentine's Day hearts	are black, blue and green.
In March	the cakes	are blue.
In April	the clouds	are bright yellow.
In May	the decorations	are gold and silver.
In June	the fireworks	are green.
In July	the flags	are grey.
In July	the flowers	are many colours.
In August	the leaves on the trees	are no colour.
In August	the new school uniforms	are orange.
In September	the pumpkins	are purple.
In September	the sheep and lambs	are red and white.
In October	the skies	are red, orange and yellow.
In November	the skies	are red.
In December	the snowmen	are silver.
In December	the strawberries and cream	are white and black.
In December	the sun and sunflowers	are white.
In December	the tangerines	are yellow, blue and white.

Cards version

Make a wrong sentence from the words on the cards below and see if your partner can make the sentence true by only changing one or two cards. You can also use the blank cards for your own ideas.

<u>in January</u>		<u>in February</u>	
<u>in March</u>		<u>in April</u>	
<u>in May</u>		<u>in June</u>	
<u>in July</u>		<u>in August</u>	
<u>in September</u>		<u>in October</u>	
<u>in November</u>		<u>in December</u>	
<i>the snowmen are</i>	<i>the Valentine's Day hearts are</i>	<i>the flowers are</i>	
<i>the sheep and lambs are</i>	<i>the flags are</i>	<i>the clouds are</i>	
<i>the fireworks are</i>	<i>the strawberries and cream are</i>	<i>the sun and sunflowers are</i>	
<i>the skies are</i>	<i>the skies are</i>	<i>the new school uniforms are</i>	
<i>the pumpkins are</i>	<i>the leaves on the trees are</i>	<i>Santa's clothes are</i>	
<i>the tangerines are</i>	<i>the cakes are</i>	<i>the decorations are</i>	

<h1>bright</h1>		<h1>dark</h1>	
<h1>light</h1>		<h1>and</h1>	
<u>black</u>	<u>blue</u>	<u>brown</u>	<u>colourless</u>
<u>gold</u>	<u>green</u>	<u>grey</u>	<u>many colours</u>
<u>no colour</u>	<u>orange</u>	<u>pink</u>	<u>purple</u>
<u>red</u>	<u>silver</u>	<u>white</u>	<u>yellow</u>

Book version

Make a wrong sentence by turning the parts of the pages below and see if your partner can quickly change it to a true sentence.

In January

Santa's clothes

are black.

In February

the cakes

are black, blue and green.

In March

the Valentine's Day hearts

are blue.

In April

the leaves on the trees

are bright yellow.

In May

the clouds

are gold and silver.

In June

the decorations

are green.

In July

the fireworks

are grey.

In July

the flags

are many colours.

In August

the new school uniforms

are colourless/ no colour.

In August

the pumpkins

are orange.

In September

the sheep and lambs

are purple.

In September

the skies

are red and white.

In October

the skies

are red, orange and yellow.

In November

the snowmen

are red.

In December

the flowers

are silver.

In December

the strawberries and cream

are white and black.

In December

the sun and sunflowers

are white.

In December

the tangerines

are yellow, blue and white.