Sticky Note Bingo  
(Cover Up)

Skills you can practice with this game:

- Letter names (caller names and shows letter)
- Letter sounds (caller says word and shows picture, child finds letter for the beginning sound)
- Letter formation (printing)
- High frequency words (caller says word, shows word as necessary)

How the game is played:

- The caller says a letter or word and the player(s) find the letter/word on their Bingo board, cover it with a sticky note, and then write the letter or word on the sticky note.

You Will Need:

- BINGO game boards with squares
- A set of cards to print letters or words on
- Sticky Notes that are approximately the same size as the squares on the BINGO board
- Pencils or other writing utensils.

This game can be played with multiple children or one-on-one.

Preparation:

Decide which letters or words you want to include in the BINGO game and prepare BINGO game boards ahead of time. Use the letters or words that the child is learning about in school.

If you are using the game to help your child learn about letter names or letter sounds, you can use upper and/or lower case letters depending on which ones your child needs practice. If your child knows only a few letters or words, you can repeat them more than once on a game board.

Prepare a set of cards with the same letters or words as the BINGO game boards. Be sure to have both upper and lower case letters if you have used both on the game boards, and to have multiple cards with the same letter or word if you have used some letters or words more than once.

(Note: If multiple children will be playing the game at the same time, BINGO game boards should be made so that the letters or words are not in the same squares on each board.)
Activity:

Give your child a BINGO game board and enough sticky-notes to cover all of the squares on the board (or a smaller number if you are playing across, down, or diagonal).

Using the set of cards you have prepared:
- Shuffle the cards, choose one, and say the letter or word that is on the card
- Ask your child to repeat what you said and then find the letter or word on their BINGO board and to cover it with a sticky note
- If your child can’t find it, show the card and name it again to assist him/her
- After your child has covered the letter or word, have him write the letter or word on the sticky note. Allow him to copy from the card if he needs to. (The purpose of this activity is to provide practice, not to test the child.)
- Ask your child to name the letter or word again
- Continue with the remaining letters or words until the board is covered

When the game is finished, your child may name the letters or words they have covered with the sticky notes as they remove them. You may need to say each and have your child repeat it.

Blank sticky notes can be returned to the stack for re-use. Sticky notes that have letters or words on them can be moved to places around the house (for example, on the refrigerator or a wall in the child’s room) for further practice at a later time.

Important:

To help your child learn the letter names and words, be sure that she names each one before she places her sticky note on it. Have her name it again after she has printed it. If children do not name the letters and words, some children will treat this game as a visual matching (and/or a copying) task and it will not help them to learn the letters or words.

Suggestions:

- For extra practice with printing the child can make his or her own BINGO game board by filling in letters or words on the board. The child should use the letters or words on the game cards as models to copy from. When more than one child is playing, the children should be encouraged to make individual choices about placement of each letter so that each child’s BINGO board will be different.

- Blank BINGO boards can also be laminated, and can be used with dry-erase markers. A blank BINGO board and a model that has been filled in can be found on the next couple of pages.
**BINGO Board Example (for practicing just a few letters)**

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Sticky note with the child’s printed letter on it.
Concentration / Memory

Skills you can practice with this game:

- Letter names
- High frequency words

How the game is played:

Players take turns turning over two letter or word cards from a set of cards arranged face down on the table. If a match is found, the player gets to keep the match and take another turn.

This game can be played with multiple children or one-on-one.

You Will Need:

- For high frequency words: A list of the words that your child is learning in school. (Teachers sometimes refer to these as sight words).
- Index cards (cut in half) or squares of paper

Preparation:

Print the words or letters that you plan to use on the cards or pieces of paper. Make 2 copies of each. Use 10 or 15 different words or letters for the game. To make sure that the cards are viewed right side up, place a small dot on the back of each card at the top.

If you are using the game to help your child learn letter names, you may want to use both upper and lower case versions of the letters. For example, you could include two upper case T’s and two lower case t’s. During the game, T & T would match and so would T & t.

Shuffle cards and then lay them out, face down, on the table in three or four rows. Be sure that the cards are all oriented properly (dots on the back at the top). Also be sure that the child(ren) are seated so that they will be viewing the cards right side up when they are turned over.

Activity:

Players take turns trying to find cards that match. As each card is turned over, the player should name the letter or word on the card. To ensure that this game is fun, parents should be ready to name the letters or words as they are turned over if the child hesitates too long or names the letter or word incorrectly. (Remember that this is a game, designed to help children practice. It is not a test.) By simply hearing the word or letter named as it is turned over, the child will be getting practice.
Go Fish

Skills you can practice with this game:

- Letter names (“Do you have a B?)
- Letter sounds (“Do you have a letter that makes the mmmmmm sound?”)
- High frequency words (Do you have the word ‘is’?)

How the game is played:

Cards with words or letters are dealt to each player. On a player’s turn, she asks for a word or letter that is in her hand. If the player she asks has the card that was requested, he gives it to her. The match is put down on the table to be counted at the end of the game. If the player who is asked does not have the matching card, the player whose turn it is has to “Go Fish”.

You Will Need:

- For high frequency words: A list of the words that your child is learning in school. (Teachers sometimes refer to these as sight words).
- Index cards (cut in half) or squares of paper

Preparation:

Print the words or letters that your child needs to practice on the cards or pieces of paper. Make 2 copies of each. Use 10 or 15 different words or letters for the game. To make sure that the cards are viewed right side up, place a small dot on the back of each card at the top.

If you are using the game to help your child learn letter names, you may want to use both upper and lower case versions of the letters. For example, you could include two upper case T’s and two lower case t’s. During the game, T & T would match and so would T & t.

Shuffle the cards and deal 5 to 7 cards to each player. Spread out the remaining cards face down to make a Fish Pond.

Activity:

Players then take turns trying to get matches for the words they are holding in their hand by asking the other player for the word they wish to match. If the other player does not have the requested item, he tells the player who asked for it to “Go Fish”.

Note: If the child is not able to identify a word in his hand, he should be allowed to spell it and the adult player would respond by saying the word. For example, if the child wanted the word with, he might ask: “Do you have the word that’s spelled w, i, t, h?” The adult might respond, “Yes, I have the word with.” Or “No, I do not have the word with. Go Fish!”
Parking Lot

Skills you can practice with this game:

- Letter names ("Park on the B?")
- Letter sounds ("Park on the letter that makes the sound you hear at the beginning of the word ‘ball’")
- High frequency words (Park on the word ‘from’)

You Will Need:

- A piece of paper or construction paper to use as a game board
- For high frequency words: a list of the high frequency words that your child needs to practice
- A toy car that will fit in the parking spaces

This game can be played with multiple children or one-on-one.

Preparation:

A parking lot is drawn on a piece of paper with two rows of parking spaces with four or five spaces in each row. These rows should be about the same size as the toy car.

Fill in each parking lot space with targeted letter or word. Be sure that when the paper is placed in front of your child all the letters or words are right side up.

Multiple parking lots can be made with the letters or words located in different spaces.

Activity:

Provide your child with a parking lot sheet and a toy car.

Direct your child to park their car in different spaces marked by a letter or word you call out.

For example: “Park your car in the T space.” Or, “Park your car on the word ‘was.’”

To reinforce letter or word recognition, once your child has ‘parked’ his or her car you might ask, “What space is your car in?”

An example of a blank Parking Lot game board is provided below. An example of what the game would look like when used for practicing high frequency words is also provided.
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Parking Lot Board Game – Example with High Frequency Words

was  the  of  it  can
to  run  want  look  say
Tic Tac Toe
Coming.............