Free sight word games for kids: letters, words and stories to play

Peabody blog · Words and levels · updated 2026-10-31

Free word games for early readers on Peabody: dig by reading words and finish words to break out of a cell. Which suit sight words, and how to use them.

Peabody (peabody.kids) has free word games for early readers, and two suit sight words well: Deep Dig and Sneaky School. In Deep Dig a child reads the word on a block to dig deeper. In Sneaky School they find letters and finish words to sneak out of school. They're free through the end of 2027, with no sign-up. They don't replace reading real stories, but they give practice words a second life. More are listed under sight word games.

What is a sight word?

Sight words are the small, common words children learn to read on sight, like the, and, said, was and see. They show up on almost every page, and some can't be sounded out easily. Early stories on Peabody are built around them, with each target word used at least twice in a story. There's more in sight words in stories, not flashcards.

A game can't teach a word by itself, but it can give a child more chances to meet it, which is the point.

The word games on Peabody

All of these are on the games page. Each is short and has a clear end, so a game is one session, not an evening.

Deep Dig

Deep Dig: read the word on the block to dig deeper. Reading the word is the way to move, so it rewards a child who knows it. Its words include sight words, phonics and spelling, from the earliest levels up. Best for a child who is just starting to read words.

Sneaky School

Sneaky School: sneak out of school by finding letters and finishing words. Sight words are among its word kinds, with letter sounds and spelling. It suits a child who knows their letters and is starting to spell short words.

Which suits which child? A rough guide: start with Deep Dig for a child who is just learning words and Sneaky School for one who's starting to spell. The games are for fun and practice, not a test, and it's fine to try several.

How to use a game well

1. Read first, play second. A story gives the words a home. Then the game gives them another look.
2. Keep it short. A game or two is plenty.
3. Play together at first. Read out the words with them.
4. Don't count mistakes. A miss is just another look at the word.
5. End on a win. Stop at a good moment.

If you'd like the story first, the free AI story generator page covers how Peabody makes stories at your child's level, and the free AI learning tool for kids page shows how the games fit with everything else.

Honest limits

- These are games, not an assessment. They can't tell you what your child knows.
- Peabody can't hear your child read, so reading aloud to a grown-up is still the best check.
- Not every game is a sight word game. Some practise letters, sounds or spelling, and that is fine, but don't expect a flashcard deck.
- Games can be sticky. Pick a stopping point before you start.

For phonics, rhyming and spelling games too, plus games to play with no screen at all, see free reading games for kids, by age. If you're starting from the very beginning, how to teach a child to read puts the steps in order.

Where to find them

Open peabody.kids, tap into Peabody, and look for Games. Or read a story from the library first.

Questions parents ask

Are the games free?

Yes. Peabody is free for everyone through 31 December 2027, with no sign-up and no card.

Which game is best for sight words?

Deep Dig leans on reading whole words, and Sneaky School mixes finding letters with finishing words. Try one at a time and see which your child enjoys.

Do games use AI?

The games use words and problems already in Peabody. AI is used to write and screen stories, and children never chat with it.

Is there an ad or a shop?

Peabody shows no ads. Games have points that are earned, and there's no shop to spend real money in.

Free at peabody.kids/blog/free-sight-word-game