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| Name: |  | Date: |  |

## Purpose

Language is one of the things that sets humans apart from other animals. Our ability to communicate through symbolic language is a necessity for collective learning to take place. This short activity shows you how flexible our language is and how difficult collective learning would have been for our non-sapiens ancestors.

## Process

This is a short, fun, three-step activity.

1. As a class, choose 200 random words.
2. Respond to the questions and prompts on the worksheet, using only the words listed. Be prepared to share your answers with the class.
3. Think about what life would be like for humans if we did not have language for communication, and discuss this with your class.

**Directions:** Using ONLY the words that your class came up with, respond to the following questions and prompts.

1. How should we try to kill that mammoth?

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1. Explain why you should marry me.

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1. Give directions for a simple task.

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1. Come up with a plan to improve our cave.

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1. Describe a physical landscape.

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1. Come up with your own questions!

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