

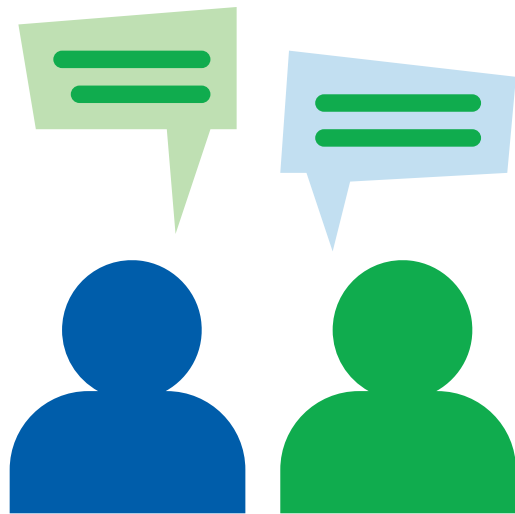
Learning Lingo,

Sharing Slang:

A Youth Outreach Game

Have you ever been confused by the slang young people are using?

Does it make you feel like you're in a different world?



Believe it or not, young people may feel the same way about your “slang.” That’s right, our workplaces and union have a “slang” of their own. Although industry jargon and union lingo like “dues” or “rank and file” might roll off your tongue, these terms can be confusing to young people.

Use this game with age groups above elementary school as a fun way to discover each other’s lingo.

AFSCME Job Training and Development Center

your union's source for workforce development guidance

American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO

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Advanced or Pre-Game Planning

1. Review and Customize Materials

- Familiarize yourself with the terms, clues and definitions provided on the next page.
- Consider adding terms that are specific to the occupations you're representing.
- If possible, replace provided clues with your own (e.g., use your own union photos of rank and file members or your actual union card).

2. Choose a Game Format Career Fairs

Youth randomly select a term (i.e. spin a wheel, draw a slip of paper) and you provide clues before asking what the term means. If a group of youth approaches your table, let them work together.

Presentations

- **Separate Groups** - Create small groups and assign each a different term. Provide clues and ask them to create a definition together. After the allotted time each group can share their term, clues and definition with the larger group.
- **Competitive Groups** - Create small groups and have them compete to define the same term. Consider using our [slideshow presentation](#) so you can provide terms and clues to each group at the same time. You can award points to teams who get the correct answer fastest.

3. Coordinate with Partners in Advance

- Share game details and allow them to offer feedback. If you're using a [slideshow](#), share it with your event contact beforehand.
- If presenting to students, ask educators beforehand...
 - to work with their students to choose (appropriate) slang and create clues for you to guess;
 - to share class rules to include in your presentation.

4. Prepare Materials and Gather Supplies

- Prepare your terms, clues, and definitions (i.e. attaching terms to a spinning wheel, printing clues).
- Bring union swag to give away as prizes for playing.

Tips:

- Offer clues in multiple formats
- Use an [online spinning wheel](#) if you don't have a physical one.
- Ask educators which game format is most appropriate for their students.
- Discuss how groups should "buzz-in" before you begin.

Print the Game Terms, Clues and Definitions on the last two pages or [download the slideshow](#).

How to Play:

Terms and Clues

- 1 Give individuals or groups a term that is related to unions and provide the term's written clue.
 - At career fairs, allow participants to randomly select their term (i.e. draw a slip of paper, spin a wheel).
 - For groups, allow 30 seconds to 1 minute for brainstorming (use your phone timer). Avoid timing individuals.
- 2 When individuals are ready or time is up, provide the term's visual clue.

Definitions

- 3 After they have considered their last clue, ask participants to share their ideas and potential definitions of their "union lingo" term.
 - Encourage youth to make an educated guess -- they are not expected to know these terms already.
- 4 Game host will highlight what participants got correct before providing a definition.
 - Award points or prizes for correct answers.
 - Answer participant questions about each term.

Youth Slang

- 5 Let youth share their slang.
 - Career Fairs: Ask participants what slang they use or hear others use. Ask for clues and try to guess the meaning before youth define their slang.
 - Presentations: Ask the group to share the slang they discussed ahead of time. Use the clues the group provides to guess the meaning before they provide a definition.
- 6 Discuss the similarities and differences between slang and the lingo or jargon used in the workplace or union. Don't feel that you have to do all the talking. Involve youth and let them contribute their thoughts to the discussion.

Wrap Up

- 7 Answer any questions participants may have about our union or the careers we represent. It's alright if you don't know the answer. Tell them you'll look into it and follow up.

For competitive groups, repeat steps 1-4 with each union lingo term and their accompanying clues.

Clues and Definitions

Use the example sentences and images (next page) as clues for each term. Review the definitions and print and cut the pages if necessary



#1 Rank & File

Clue: “Our union’s rank and file have many ideas about how to improve their workplace.”

Definition: The members of a union.

#2 Strike

Clue: “The workers went on strike for 2 weeks to fight for better pay.”

Definition: When members stop work to pressure employers to meet their demands on issues like wages, hours and working conditions, or to protest unfair labor practice.

#3 Card

Clue: “Devon signed a card after talking to an AFSCME organizer about the benefits of forming a union.”

Definition: Shorthand for a union authorization card, which is a document signed by a worker to show their support for unionization. When a majority of workers have signed cards, employers can recognize their union in a process known as a “card check.”

#4 Dues

Clue: “Daniela, who has been an AFSCME member for 10 years, knows her dues help improve her working conditions.”

Definition: The set amount members contribute to support their union’s work to represent their interests.

#5 Union Bug

Clue: “Ahmed wants to support workers, so he looks for products with a union bug when he is at the store.”

Definition: A stamp, label or tag on products made by unionized workers.

1.



2.



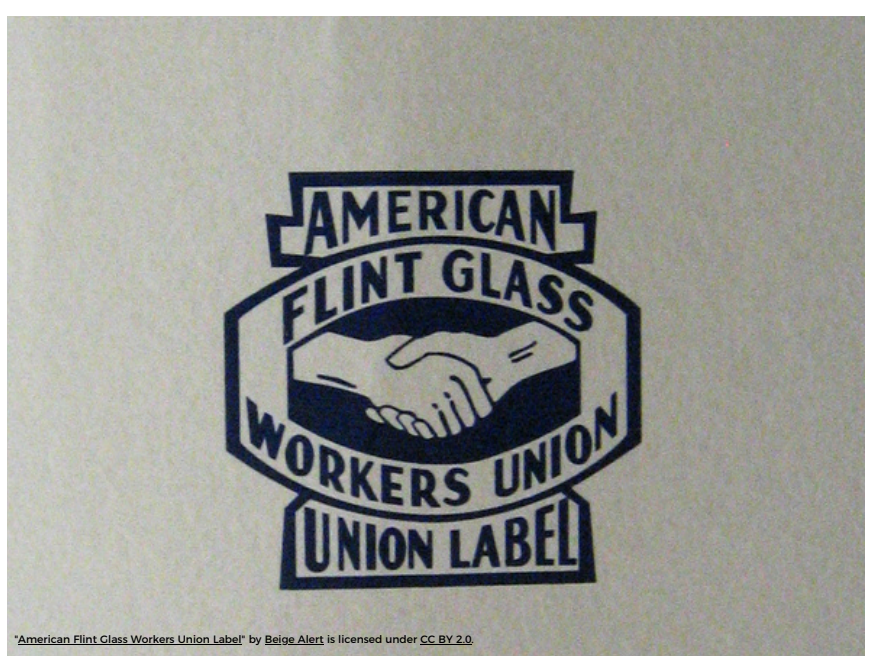
3.



4.



5.



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