

Preposition Hide and Seek: Game Script and Practice

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How to play

Every student plays alone and answers with their fingers: show one, two or three. Each correct answer wins one star, and there are 15 stars to win.

- **Level:** elementary to intermediate learners of English
 - **Time:** 5 minutes with the video, or about 40 minutes as a full lesson
 - **You need:** the video or five simple pictures (a table, a box, a house, a tree, two trees), a star sticker or a coin, a timer, and one star card for each student
1. Give every student a star card (15 empty stars; see the practice section).
 2. Show the clue. Each clue has three answers, numbered 1, 2 and 3.
 3. Count down five seconds. Nobody speaks.
 4. Say "Show me!" Everyone holds up one, two or three fingers.
 5. Give the answer. Students with the correct answer colour one star.
 6. After 15 questions, students count their stars.

Stars	Title
13 to 15	Preposition Master
9 to 12	Preposition Explorer
0 to 8	Play again and win more stars

Game script: what the leader says

Read this script aloud to run the game in class. It follows the video line by line, so a student can be the game leader. The number in brackets is the correct finger answer.

Start

1. "Hello everyone, and welcome! Look! A little star is flying into our picture."
2. "Today we play Preposition Hide and Seek!"
3. "Everyone plays alone, with a star card."
4. "Watch the clue. Then show your answer with your fingers: one, two or three."
5. "If you are correct, colour one star on your card."
6. "There are fifteen stars to win. Ready? Let's play!"

Level 1: Find the Star (prepositions of place)

Say: "Level one: Find the Star! The star visits five places." Show each picture with the star in its place, read the three answers, and wait five seconds.

Question	Picture and where the star is	Say the answers	Then say
1	A table in a room: the star lands on top of the table	1 under, 2 on, 3 behind	"Two! The star is on the table."
2	An open box: the star drops inside the box	1 on, 2 above, 3 in	"Three! The star is in the box."
3	A house: the star flies over the roof	1 above, 2 under, 3 in	"One! The star is above the house."
4	A tree in a park: the star rolls to the side of the tree	1 in, 2 next to, 3 above	"Two! The star is next to the tree."
5	Two pine trees at night: the star lands in the middle	1 on, 2 under, 3 between	"Three! The star is between the trees."

Level 2: Time Sort (at, on, in)

Say: "Level two: Time Sort! Use 'at' for clock times, 'on' for days and dates, and 'in' for months, years and parts of the day. Show one for 'at', two for 'on', three for 'in'." Wait three seconds after each time word.

Question	Say the time word	Then say
6	"Seven o'clock."	"One! At seven o'clock."
7	"Monday."	"Two! On Monday."
8	"October."	"Three! In October."
9	"The morning."	"Three! In the morning."
10	"The eleventh of October."	"Two! On the eleventh of October."
11	"Night."	"One! At night."

Level 3: Fix the Sentence (professional pairs)

Say: "Level three: Fix the Sentence! Choose the preposition for professional English." Read the sentence and say "blank" for the gap. Wait five seconds.

Question	Say the sentence	Say the answers	Then say
12	"I am interested ____ English."	1 at, 2 in, 3 on	"Two! I am interested in English."
13	"She is good ____ teaching."	1 at, 2 in, 3 to	"One! She is good at teaching."
14	"Thank you ____ your help."	1 to, 2 of, 3 for	"Three! Thank you for your help."
15	"I look forward ____ meeting you."	1 for, 2 to, 3 at	"Two! I look forward to meeting you."

Finish

1. "Now count your stars!"
2. "Thirteen to fifteen stars: you are a Preposition Master!"
3. "Nine to twelve stars: you are a Preposition Explorer."
4. "Eight stars or fewer: play again and win more!"
5. "Now it is your turn. Choose a picture, hide a star in five places, and ask your friends: where is the star?"
6. "The right preposition makes your English professional. Thank you for playing, and see you in the next game!"

Rules to remember

A preposition is a small word that shows place, time or a link between words. These three tables cover everything in the game.

Place: where is it?

Preposition	Meaning	Example
on	touching a surface	The star is on the table.
in	inside something	The star is in the box.
above	higher, but not touching	The star is above the house.
next to	at the side of something	The star is next to the tree.
between	in the middle of two things	The star is between the trees.
under	lower than something	The rug is under the table.
behind	at the back of something	The hill is behind the house.

Time: when is it?

Preposition	Use it for	Examples
at	clock times, and "night"	at 7 o'clock, at noon, at night
on	days and dates	on Monday, on 11 October, on my birthday
in	months, years, seasons, parts of the day	in October, in 2026, in the morning

Professional pairs: which word goes together?

Pair	What comes next	Example
interested in	a noun or an -ing verb	I am interested in English.
good at	a noun or an -ing verb	She is good at teaching.
thank you for	a noun or an -ing verb	Thank you for your help.
look forward to	an -ing verb	I look forward to meeting you.

Be careful: after "look forward to", use the -ing form. Say "I look forward to meeting you", not "to meet you".

Hands-on practice

Three short activities match the three levels of the game. Use the star card first while you watch the video.



Star card: colour one star for each correct answer in the game.

Level	Stars to win
Level 1: Find the Star	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆
Level 2: Time Sort	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆ ☆
Level 3: Fix the Sentence	☆ ☆ ☆ ☆
My total	____ / 15

Practice A: Place. Look at the picture and complete each sentence.

Word bank: between · next to · in · on · on · above · behind · in front of

1. The plant is _____ the two banners.
2. The teacher is standing _____ the plant.
3. The plant is _____ a grey pot.
4. The name badge is _____ the blue lanyard.

5. The pot is _____ the floor.
6. The ceiling pipes are _____ the banners.
7. The long hall is _____ the teacher.
8. The teacher is standing _____ the white banner.

Practice B: Time. Write at, on or in.

1. The lesson starts _____ 9 o'clock.
2. We have English _____ Tuesday.
3. The conference is _____ October.
4. She studies _____ the evening.
5. The game day is _____ 15 November.
6. The school opened _____ 1998.
7. The stars come out _____ night.
8. We play games _____ Friday afternoon.

Practice C: Professional pairs. Complete the email with in, at, for or to.

Dear Teacher,

Thank you (1) _____ your email. I am very interested (2) _____ your English game. My students are good (3) _____ speaking, and they want to play it next week. I look forward (4) _____ hearing from you.

Best regards, Anan

Now write two sentences about yourself. Use "interested in" and "good at".

Make your own game

Work with a partner. Hide the star in a new picture, write your clues in the table, and play with another pair.

- Choose a picture: a photo, a poster, or your own classroom.
- Hide the star (a sticker or a coin) in five different places.
- Write three answers for each place. Only one is correct.
- Ask "Where is the star?" Your friends answer with their fingers.
- Give one star for each correct answer.

Our picture shows:

Question	The star is ... (the place)	Answer 1	Answer 2	Answer 3	Correct number
1					
2					
3					
4					

5					
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Extra challenge: add two time questions (at, on, in) and two professional pairs to your game.

Answer key

The game: correct finger answers

Level	Question	Finger answer	Full answer
1	1	2	The star is on the table.
1	2	3	The star is in the box.
1	3	1	The star is above the house.
1	4	2	The star is next to the tree.
1	5	3	The star is between the trees.
2	6	1	at 7 o'clock
2	7	2	on Monday
2	8	3	in October
2	9	3	in the morning
2	10	2	on 11 October
2	11	1	at night
3	12	2	I am interested in English.
3	13	1	She is good at teaching.
3	14	3	Thank you for your help.
3	15	2	I look forward to meeting you.

Practice A

1. between
2. next to
3. in
4. on
5. on
6. above
7. behind
8. in front of

Practice B

1. at
2. on
3. in
4. in
5. on
6. in
7. at
8. on (a day with a part of the day takes "on": on Friday afternoon)

Practice C

1. for
2. in
3. at
4. to