

THE OBJECT LESSONS CHANNEL!



Wisdom: Junk Mail Object Lesson

- Best for Upper Elementary to High School ages •

Main Point: Read the Bible and do what it says.

Bible Story Suggestion: This object lesson works with any Bible topic as explained below. If you do wish to have a specific Bible story or passage, we suggest the Parable of the Seed and the Sower (Matthew 13:1-9,18-23) which contrasts four ways people respond to the Word of God. Also, there's Matthew 7:24-29, Jesus' story of the wise and foolish builders.

Bible Passages on the Topic of Wisdom: Proverbs 2:6; Proverbs 4:5; Proverbs 4:5; Isaiah 28:29; Matthew 7:24; Ephesians 5:15,16; James 1:5.

Instructions: Once in awhile it's a good idea to remind the kids in your group to take the Word of God seriously; to read the Bible and do what it says. The Bible is where we learn about our God and about the wisdom He wants us to know and the path He wants us to follow.

This object lesson uses a handful of junk mail to contrast the so-called wisdom of the world with the true wisdom and common sense found in the Bible. That wisdom is open to anyone who cares to read and obey.

Insert this object lesson at the beginning, middle or end of any Sunday School lesson or Bible message; it works with all.

- Show the junk mail. Read bits of some to give kids an idea of just how junky mail can be!
- Contrast the junk mail in your hand with the "junk mail of life" we all experience in day-to-day living. The object lesson video will give you guidance here.

Link to the Object Lesson Demonstration Video: <https://youtu.be/rn-DH0hU24s>

Activity Page: Wisdom Cards. Best for Upper Elementary and above.

Although players work the activity separately, it's good to have small groups sit together to see the results each player arrives at.

Complete instructions of this fun activity are on the next pages. The instructions may be a bit difficult for young students to grasp at first. Be sure to walk the kids through the process a time or two, until they see how it all works. If a player comes up with a phrase from the Wisdom List that does not match the card placed to one side, the player made a mistake.

Also, the four cards that form the two pairs can be shuffled during the three steps; the game will still play correctly.

WISDOM CARDS!

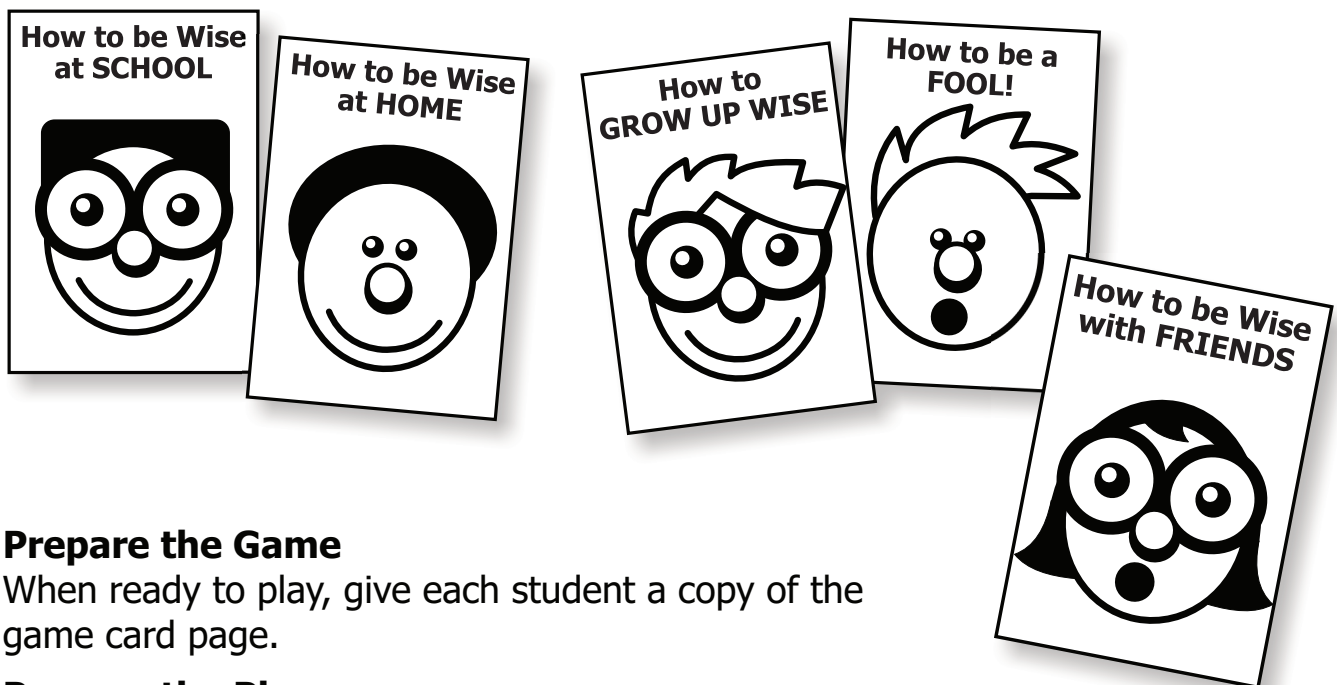
Teacher Info Page

What You're Looking At: A fascinating game that employs a mathematical trick to get kids thinking about wisdom.

How to Print: Print on letter-size paper, black and white, single-sided. Print one copy of this page and the next, used by the teacher. Print one game card page per student.

Prepare Yourself

Take time to play this game yourself before playing it with students, just to be sure you understand how it works. The instructions are a bit grueling, so we'll step you through the whole process below and on the next page.



Prepare the Game

When ready to play, give each student a copy of the game card page.

Prepare the Players

Each player needs a pencil and access to scissors. Read the instructions on the next page to the kids.

Wisdom Cards Instructions

STEP 1

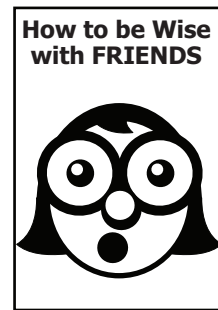
Cut out the five cards on your game page.

Now pick **one card** that interests you. Your choices are: How to be Wise at School, How to be Wise at Home, How to be Wise with Friends, How to Grow Up Wise and How to be a Fool.

Pick just one of these cards to separate from the rest.

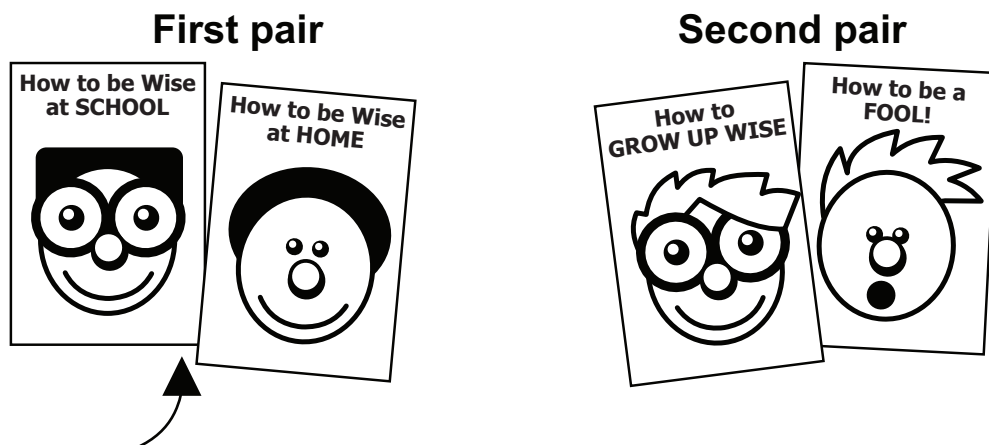
Take the card you have chosen and lay it off to one side.

You will not touch it again until the end of the game.



STEP 2

Shuffle the **remaining four cards** and place them face up in **two pairs** in front of you.



STEP 3

Look at the **first pair**. Does the **color of the hair match**? That is, do both cards have white hair or both have black? Look at the **second pair**: do both cards match each other?

STEP 4

Add up the number of **pairs with matching hair**. You may have one, two or zero matching pairs. **Write that number down.** (Our example shows **TWO matching pairs**; you would write down "2").

STEP 5

Now do Steps 2-4 again but with **eyeglasses** this time. How many pairs match (glasses or no glasses)? **Write that number next to the first one you wrote down.** (Our example shows that **NEITHER** pair matches. You would now have the number **20**: 2 and zero.)

STEP 6

Do Steps 2-4 one last time, with **expressions** this time (smile or open mouth). Write that number next to the others. You now have a three-digit number. (In our example, only the first pair matches. That makes your three-digit number **201**.)

STEP 7

Look up the three-digit number on the Wisdom List. You'll find a comment that applies to **the card you laid to one side.** The comment applies **only** to that one card, but for most cards there are more than one possible comments. Try the game again by reshuffling the four cards or picking a new one to put off to the side.

Wisdom Cards!

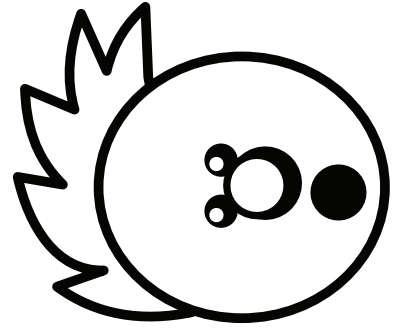
"If you lack wisdom, ask God for it. He generously gives to all without blame; wisdom will be given to you."

James 1:5

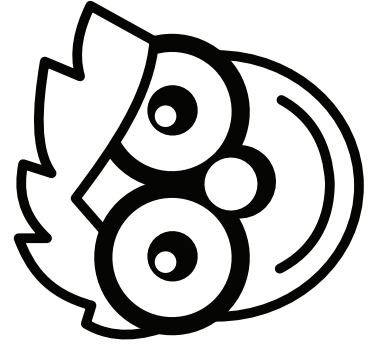
Wisdom List:

- 000** • No cheating!
- 001** • Be willing to share things with your pals.
- 002** • Do your best at homework.
- 010** • Obey your folks.
- 012** • Be good to your brothers and sisters.
- 020** • Do special projects for extra credit.
- 021** • Christians make the best friends.
- 022** • Bring healthy lunches.
- 100** • Make a habit of reading the Bible.
- 102** • Make a habit of obeying God.
- 111** • Want to be a fool? Ignore God!
- 120** • Make a habit of prayer.
- 122** • Make a habit of church.
- 200** • Join in after school activities.
- 201** • Lead your friends to do good things.
- 202** • Make sure you do assignments on time.
- 210** • Help around the house.
- 212** • Take good care of your things.
- 220** • Make friends with your teachers.
- 221** • Think up fun stuff for you and your pals to do.
- 222** • Learn how to read and spell!

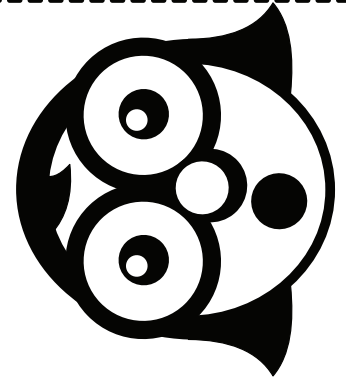
How to be a
FOOL!



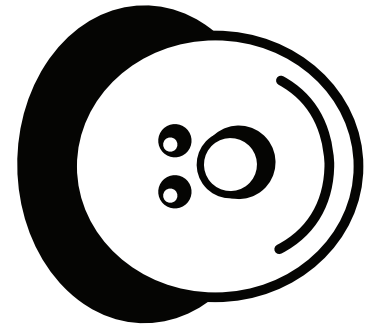
How to
GROW UP WISE



How to be Wise
with FRIENDS



How to be Wise
at HOME



How to be Wise
at SCHOOL

