

Object rush

Lay out an array of objects on a table at the front of the class. For your own support you may print out and arrange the labels so that YOU may see them but the class cannot.

Arrange the class in groups and encourage a gentle competitive tension between the groups eg by musing out loud 'I wonder which group will learn the names of the most objects?'

Pick up an object/point to a picture (eg a book), look puzzled and ask yourself "Pyth yw hemma? What is this? Pyth yw hemma?" Get the class to practice looking puzzled (go on; insist on furrowed brows) and repeat "Pyth yw hemma?" with you several times.

Have a revelation (ah ha!) moment and reply to your own question;
"Lyver yw! It's a book! Lyver yw!"

Get the class to practice the 'ah ha!' face and repeat "Lyver yw" with you several times. Select a 'volunteer' messenger to

- come out to the table
- pick up an object (say, a pen)
- look puzzled
- ask you "Pyth yw hemma?"

Do the 'ah ha!' face and reply
"Pluven yw!"

Allow the messenger to practice and repeat "Pluven yw" with you several times. Send the messenger back to their group with the object. Tell the whole group to look puzzled and ask the volunteer "Pyth yw hemma?" to which the messenger will hopefully reply (ah ha!) "Pluven yw!" When the messenger is sure that the group has learned the name of the item, tell them to pass the object to the next messenger who will bring it back to the table and swap it for the next item to be learned.

Now we are ready for the inter-group challenge: Ask each group to send a messenger and to keep repeating the process until they think that they have learned all the vocabulary. With five or six messengers running back and forth from their groups (and you desperately trying to keep up with their demands) it gets noisy, frantic and fun! After a few minutes of mayhem the learning can be consolidated by informally 'assessing' the groups' learning. Tell the groups to award themselves one mark for each object that they THINK they have learned correctly. Then pick up each object on the table and ask "Pyth yw hemma?"

Choose a confident-looking group to reply with "... yw!"
Reward them with "OBER DA!"