

# Directions for Concentration

The goal of the Concentration card game is to make matches between cards that display letters, pictures, or words. The letters, pictures, and words will vary according to the purpose of the application activity (for example, matching beginning sounds or ending sounds, letters and sounds, beginning consonant clusters and pictures, and so on). The objective is to gather the most pairs by the end of the game.

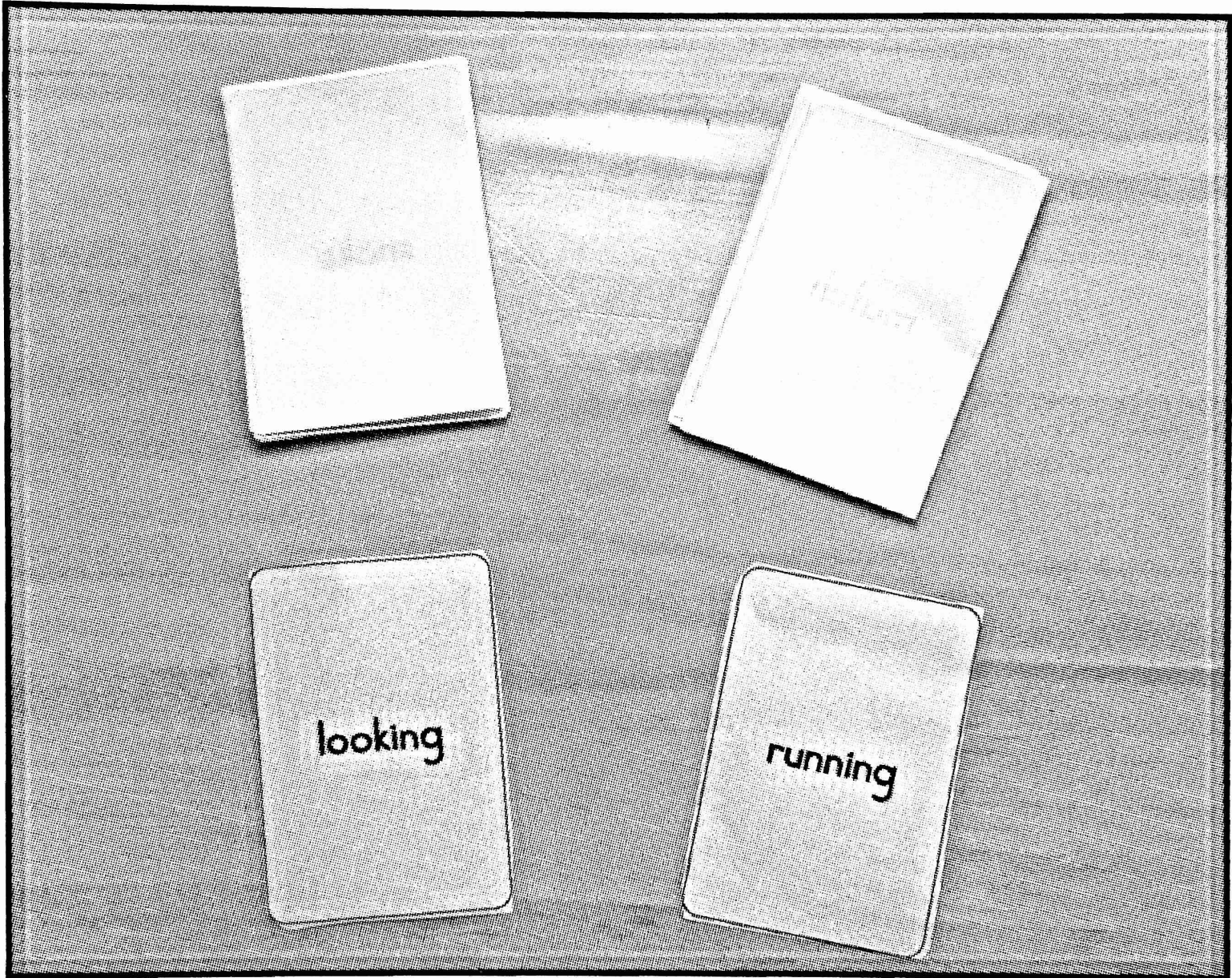
**Making the Game** The Concentration game is provided in the lessons. However, if you wish to customize the game using the Custom Card Maker on the Online Resources site, you can prepare a collection of cards with letters, pictures, or words that will be paired using the Deck Card Template. You may want to draw a simple picture or place a sticker on the reverse side of the cards to create a uniform deck. If you make the back of each set of cards different, keeping cards in different decks and selecting differ-

ent decks becomes easier. The total number of cards should be anywhere from twelve to twenty-four.

**Playing the Game** To play the game, place the cards face down on the table in orderly rows. Each player has a turn. The player turns two cards over to show the letter, picture, word, or word part. If the cards go together, the player takes the pair and takes another turn. If they don't match, the player turns the cards back over and the next player has a turn. The player who has the most pairs at the end of the game is the winner.

This game requires players not only to make matches among sounds and letters but to remember the position of potential matches.

You can teach the games in the word work section of many of the lessons. (Game directions are also on the Online Resources site.) There will not be much time to play these games, but with only three players, they go quickly. Once children have learned the routines for the games, they can take them back to the classroom to play and they can also take home a copy to play with family members.



**FIGURE 27** Concentration game cards