Letters and words are important. They describe ideas and feelings, provide clues, and ultimately fill books and library shelves with stories.

Designers communicate ideas through form (like words) and content (what words mean.) Rules and constraints (things you cannot change) help a designer be more creative.

This workshop teaches kids of all ages about typography and design. Naturally, words imply visual meaning. By studying a word and then altering it, students will create a visual representation of an idea to suggest motion, narrative, or emotion. Through playful experimentation, students will make typography speak.

Rules

Select a word, and think about what it means.
Print it out, cut it word apart, then tape it back together.
The word should be readable, and look like what it means.

Goals

Playful introduction to typography
Learning about rules in a design process
Learning how to express ideas visually

Supply List

Blank Paper
Printed Copies of Words
Scissors
Glue or Tape
Playing With Words—Examples

- adding
- change
- radnam
- stripe

- balance
- doouubllee
- shape
- s-tract

- ball
- drop
- shred
- tight

- bottom
- si y
- throw

- broken
- hidden
- sloppy
- ups
ta
irs

- breaking
- missing
- squiggle
- zig zag
balance
balloon
boom
breaking
change
flat
hidden
missing
random
shred
squinale
subtract
upstairs
zigzag