Working Memory Activities

- Backwards Spelling

o Have partners sit facing each other, with one facing the board and the other unable to see it. Display a list of words that are in the students' ability to spell. The partner that can see the board reads a word, and the other partner must spell it forward than backward. Switch partners and display new words.

- Story building

o Sitting in a circle, one person starts a story with one word. The next person repeats what has already been said and adds I word to the story. The next person repeats and adds I word. Continue around the circle adding words to create a detailed story. This can be made more challenging by having each person add a complete sentence.

- Remember the list

o Display a list of words (or pictures) on the board for a short amount of time for students to study. After 60 seconds, remove list and have students write down as much as they can remember from the board. Display the list again to see what was remembered and what was forgotten.

- Spot the Difference

O Show two similar pictures with just minor differences. Challenge students to spot all the differences between each picture. Students can work in partners or teams for this.

- Unscramble the letters

o In the same manner as backwards spelling, have students sit with one student facing the board and the other with their back to the board. Display a list of scrambled words and have the one partners read the scrambled letters to the other. The second partner then must unscramble the letters mentally and create a word.