

6

Quotation Marks

Activity Directions

Help write the script for what happened on a TV quiz show called *Weird Words*. Two contestants competed against each other to define words and win prizes. Please put quotation marks around the definitions. (Hint: There are seven definitions below.) It may be hard to believe, but every one of the weird words on this page is real.

QUIZMASTER: Contestant #1, your first word is *argleburgle*.

CONTESTANT 1: Oh, that's easy. *Argleburgle* means an argument.

CONTESTANT 2: No, it doesn't.

CONTESTANT 1: Yes, it does!

QUIZMASTER: Let's not have an *argleburgle* about it.

CONTESTANT #2: This show is giving me *collywobbles*.

QUIZMASTER: What are those?

CONTESTANT #1: *Collywobbles* means stomach pains.

CONTESTANT #2: That's because you're trying to *bamboozle* me, and *bamboozle* means to cheat somebody.

CONTESTANT #1: I won't stand for this *jiggery-pokery* any more.

QUIZMASTER: *Jiggery-pokery* means dishonest behavior, folks.

CONTESTANT #2: I'm totally flabbergasted!

QUIZMASTER: That means astonished. And so am I. I've got to end this *kerfuffle* (that's a commotion or ruckus) immediately.

CONTESTANT #1: This is worse than a *kerfuffle*. It's a *brouhaha*!

CONTESTANT #2: I know that word. *Brouhaha* means a *kerfuffle*.

QUIZMASTER: I've had enough of this *argleburgle*, *jiggery-pokery*, *kerfuffle*, and *brouhaha*. I'm getting *collywobbles*, too. I'm going home.

Punctuation Rule

Put quotation marks around definitions, like this:

When you *fribble* your fingers,
you "twist or turn them
absent-mindedly."

My Latin teacher says *corpore diem* means
"seize the day."

Note: The word that is being defined is usually put in italics, like this:
arachnophobia ("fear of spiders"). Foreign words are always italicized whether they are being defined or not: *Blumen* ("flowers" in German).

