

## Dip Sac Toe

**Players:** two

**Needed to play:** Dip Sac Toe cards/letter tiles and a play grid similar to Tic Tac Toe (two horizontal lines drawn across two vertical lines). A hint card with simple Dip Sac Toe words can be shared with players to start the game.

**How to play:** This is a spelling variation of Tic Tac Toe, where players “spell” their way to victory: instead of three X’s or three O’s, a player finishes a three letter word on the game board in any direction (up, down, or diagonal, including backwards).

The ten letters used for Dip Sac Toe are: **T, A, E, I, O, C, P, S, H, & D**

The game can be played two ways:

1) The letter cards or tiles are placed face down in a row between the two players. The youngest player begins by selecting one letter card, and placing it anywhere on the game board. Play then passes to the next player, who selects a card and then plays it where he/she chooses. Play continues until one player places a card in a spot that spells a three-letter word (regardless if all three letters were laid by that player). The player, however, must point out the word to the other player and spell or say the word out loud.

2) Shuffle the ten letter cards and deal five to each player. Players can place the cards letter-side up in front of them, or agree to hold them in a hand. Play follows the same format as above, except that players choose letters from their hands to spell a three letter word, instead of selecting them one at a time. Again, a player wins the round by placing a third letter down in a space and spelling or saying the word aloud to the other player.

**Note:** the game can be a challenge for new players, as it “goes against” common reading practice of looking for words from left to right. You may have to

remind players at first to keep an eye out for words in all directions (up, down, left, right, diagonal and backwards diagonal).

Hint card words can include:

tap	pot	hat	pit	ash
ape	sip	hot	tie	hic
top	sat	dot	tea	cod
tip	set	doe	sea	die
ace	sit	cot	pea	pie
ice	hit	cat	cap	ate

Letter tiles or cards can be borrowed from a Scrabble or Bananagrams game, or can be made using business card stock cut in half. Cards can also be fashioned out of boxboard such as cereal or cracker boxes.