

English Board Ideas

1. Find the ____

Hide a picture cutout on the board (e.g., *Pikachu*, *acorn*, “*Christmas pickle*”). If students find it, they can show you for a small prize or sticker.

2. Monthly Polls

Create a poll and provide ballots or stickers for voting. Students can place their stickers directly on the board. At the end of the month, you can count the votes and display the results with a chart/graph.

Polls can also include multiple-choice questions (e.g., “*What did you do this summer vacation?*”)

3. Seasonal Cut-Out Art

Create blank themed cutouts (e.g., *pumpkins*, *ornaments*, *Easter eggs*, *hand turkeys*) for students to decorate and return. Display their work on the board.

4. Collective Nouns

Feature animals and their unique group names; you can choose to display animals that fit the season. Use flippable cards:

- **Front:** Singular name (e.g., *lion*) with a picture
- **Back:** Group name and Japanese meaning (e.g., *a pride* (意気地) *of lions*)

5. Birth Month Features

Show each month’s birth flower, gem, etc. Add flippable cards with English/Japanese names and meanings:

- **Front:** Month (e.g., *May*)
- **Back:** Item and meaning (e.g., *Lily of the Valley – purity / 清浄*)

6. Around the World

Introduce global greetings, holidays, etc. Include a world map with images or phrases from each select country. To make it interactive, use magnets so students can match countries with their corresponding phrases, flags, or traditions.

7. Monthly Calendar

Add a monthly calendar featuring fun international or “just for fun” holidays (e.g., *Pizza Day*). Allow students to write their birthdays on the calendar during their birthday month.

English Board Ideas

8. Word Search / Crossword

Create laminated word searches or crossword puzzles that students can complete using whiteboard markers. These can be reused and left on the board for free-time or lunch activities.

9. English Challenges

Design monthly “English Challenges” where students interact with the ALT to earn small rewards (e.g., stickers). Examples include:

- Reciting a set phrase (“My mother likes ____.” for Mother’s Day)
- Saying the months of the year in English
- Practicing short conversations or greetings

10. Weekly/monthly Features

Include short seasonal comics, a “Word of the Week,” or a monthly character (e.g., *Pokémon*, *Mario*, *anime titles/characters*) to keep students engaged and curious.

11. Match the textbook

Use units from textbooks that students can interact with outside of class. (E.g. *6th-grade’s unit about future goals. Display materials showing jobs that use English (available on ALTopedia) to highlight the importance of English in real-world careers – useful for high school, as well).*

12. Extra Content Ideas

- Recipes, songs, or movie recommendations related to English-speaking countries
- Common English phrases to use; can include fun slang
- Japanese-to-English vocabulary comparisons
- Tongue twisters for pronunciation practice
- Mini games like *match the picture to the word* or *magnet puzzles*