a turn, and continue to alternate sides until all the papers have been drawn. If someone gets stuck, he or she can pass (the other side gets a point) or ask the timer for help (time continues to run). At the end of the first round, tell each side how many points they have.

Second Round: Put all papers back in the basket. In this round have each person act out the characters without using sign language or speaking.

Third Round: By now the kids should have most of the characters memorized. In this round each player can only use one word to describe each character. Once the word is spoken, the player can't add to or change it. At the end of this round, count the points for all three rounds to declare the winner.

Heath German Aubrey, Texas

Game TRIPLE CHARADES

In this fun charades variation, kids get one, two, three chances to guess.

Give each person two or three small slips of paper and a pen or pencil. Have each person write down two or three famous people, animated characters, or Bible characters. Place the papers (once you've discarded duplicates) in a basket in the middle of the room. Have the guys and girls get on opposite sides of the room and choose which side will go first. Have a volunteer keep track of the time and scores. Explain the game, emphasizing that one of the keys is to remember the characters from the first round because that will help in later rounds. Each round has a one-minute time limit for each player to describe as many characters as possible.

First Round: Have the first player go to the basket and face her team. When she's ready, she tells the timer to begin and draws one slip of paper from the basket. She can say or do anything except say the actual names of the characters. When time is up, have a guy take