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## Here's an Instant Activity for March 18, 2002



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### STRATEGY FOR SPELLING SUCCESS

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For most learners, spelling well doesn't just happen. It is the result of a conscientious spelling curriculum that:

1. provides a menu of skill-building activities that range in sophistication to teach critical concepts at a student's own level,
2. uses assessment to gather information to target word study to the specific words each student has not learned from among all previously introduced words in the program, as well as to identify skills not yet mastered,
3. equips teachers with guidelines for spelling expectations in everyday writing that increase as students develop as writers, making the classroom a rehearsal for real-world writing, and
4. proposes multiple opportunities to engage parents in the acquisition of spelling skills with their child.

This Instant Activity helps teachers achieve item number 1 above—it complements the skill-building component in the *SPELLING SOURCEBOOK SERIES*, Second Edition, 2002. Further, it could be used as an at-home activity to complement item number 4 above—parent-child partnerships.



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### LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

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Approximately Grade 4



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### PURPOSE

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Concept: The meaning of a word may be unlocked through its etymology.  
Skills: vocabulary development, research, writing an explanation



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### SUGGESTED USE

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This Instant Activity can be used to complement the Word Mysteries and Histories that focuses on the etymology of the word *boycott*, page 94, of Level 4 in the *Spelling Sourcebook Series*, Second Edition, 2002.



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### TEACHING DIRECTIONS

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Discuss with students the Word Mysteries and Histories information on the Instant Activity. Tell students that *boycott* is an *eponym*, a word that became part of our language as a result of a person's name or the name of a place.

Distribute a copy of the Instant Activity to students. Ask a student to read the directions and explain what is expected. Then do the first one together.



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#### FOLLOW-UP

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Have students find and write more eponyms. Create a class book of eponyms.

Share the book, *The Name's Familiar*, by Laura Lee, a book of etymologies that includes eponyms.



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#### FOR MORE

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For more activities to teach all the essential skills and concepts at each grade 1-8, use the SPELLING SOURCEBOOK for your grade level.

To learn about the newly revised Series:

Request our free, on-loan Preview Video by calling 888-WE-SPELL (888-937-7355).

To order your SPELLING SOURCEBOOK:

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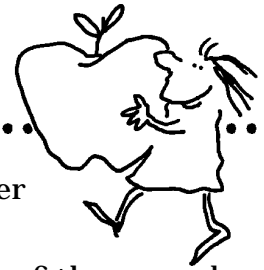
P.O. Box 5608

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800-676-6630

503-639-2559 (fax)

# Build Skills and Word Experiences



Name \_\_\_\_\_, Super Speller

Write the eponym that became a part of our language as the result of these people or places. Then explain what the word means.

Captain Charles Boycott, an Irish landlord Eponym: \_\_\_\_\_

This eponym means: \_\_\_\_\_

Louis Braille, a blind man Eponym: \_\_\_\_\_

This eponym means: \_\_\_\_\_

Atlas, the giant of strength, Greek mythology Eponym: \_\_\_\_\_

This eponym means: \_\_\_\_\_

Anders Celsius, a Swedish astronomer and scientist Eponym: \_\_\_\_\_

This eponym means: \_\_\_\_\_

Cheddar, an English village Eponym: \_\_\_\_\_

This eponym means: \_\_\_\_\_

George Washington Ferris, an engineer Eponym: \_\_\_\_\_

This eponym means: \_\_\_\_\_

William R. Frisbie, the owner of a pie company Eponym: \_\_\_\_\_

This eponym means: \_\_\_\_\_

Jules Leotard, a trapeze artist Eponym: \_\_\_\_\_

This eponym means: \_\_\_\_\_

Sam Maverick, a cattle rancher Eponym: \_\_\_\_\_

This eponym means: \_\_\_\_\_

Levi Strauss, a clothing manufacturer Eponym: \_\_\_\_\_

This eponym means: \_\_\_\_\_

Ebenezer Scrooge, a character in the book, A Christmas Carol Eponym: \_\_\_\_\_

This eponym means: \_\_\_\_\_

Earl of Cardigan, an English nobleman Eponym: \_\_\_\_\_

This eponym means: \_\_\_\_\_