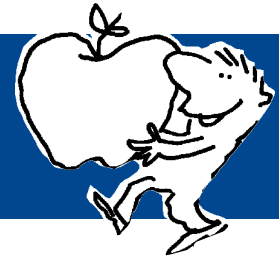

Here's an Instant Activity for April 21, 2003



STRATEGY FOR SPELLING SUCCESS

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.



LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

Approximately Grade 5



PURPOSE

Concept: Synonyms are words that have similar meanings.

Skills: synonyms, capitalization, abbreviations, writing directions, making a map

This Instant Activity provides vocabulary development for students and helps them develop map skills.

The activity grows from the high-use Core Word *street*, word 562 on a frequency-of-use list of writing words. The purpose of the activity is not to specifically teach or reinforce the spelling of *street*, but to expand students' word banks to many words that have synonymous, or nearly the same, meanings as *street*. The more words with which students have experiences, the better they are able to think, read, and write.



SUGGESTED USE

This Instant Activity can be used to coincide with the information box activity in Unit 13, page 115, in Level 5 of the Spelling Sourcebook Series, Second Edition.



TEACHING DIRECTIONS

Write *street* on the chalkboard, or have a student do so. Discuss instances in which the word would/ would not be capitalized. Tell students that there are many other words that mean *street*, or have nearly the same meaning. This Instant Activity asks them to find and write these words, their abbreviations if they have one, and to use the words to explain their route to/from school.

Print the Instant Activity and distribute a copy to each student. Ask students to silently read the directions, look at the activity, and determine what is expected. Then discuss the directions.



FOLLOW-UP

Possible answers: alley, avenue/ave., boulevard/blvd., court/ct., drive/dr., highway/hwy., lane/ln. or la., parkway/pkwy., place/pl., road/rd., route/rt., square/sq., terrace/terr., way.

Have students create a map to trace the directions they described on the Instant Activity. Ask students to label the streets on the map.

Introduce Tomie de Paola's 2000 Newbery Honor Book, *26 Fairmount Avenue*. The book describes a family's move into their new home in Meriden, Connecticut.



FOR MORE

For more activities to teach all the essential skills and concepts, and to develop a total spelling and language-related program, use the Spelling Sourcebook for your grade level.

To learn about the newly revised Series:

Request our free, on-loan Overview Video by calling 888-WE-SPELL (888-937-7355). The video can also be ordered through our web site: www.sittonspelling.com.

Attend a seminar that explains and demonstrates lessons that reflect the Spelling Sourcebook methodology. For more information, visit www.sittonspelling.com. Click on the Training tab at the top of the page, then click on Seminar Schedule.

To order your SPELLING SOURCEBOOK:

Northwest Textbook Depository

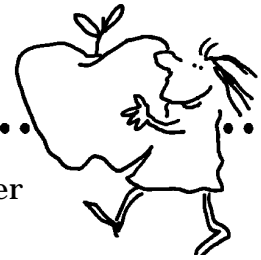
P.O. Box 5608

Portland, OR 97228

800-676-6630

503-639-2559 (fax)

Build Skills and Word Experiences



Name _____, Super Speller

Street Synonyms

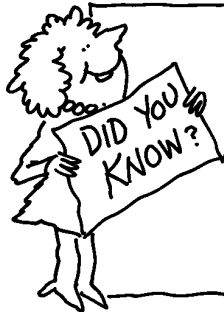
List synonyms, or words that mean nearly the same thing, for "street." Next to each, write its abbreviation, if the word has one. Then write directions from the place where you live to school. Use the street names.

Many words are used to mean "street."



Words that name streets

Abbreviations



Many abbreviations no longer use periods, especially for numerical units (e.g., doz, ft). Exceptions are numerical abbreviations that, with no period, spell other words (e.g., no, in). No. is an abbreviation with two meanings—number and north. St. is an abbreviation that can stand for three words—street, Saint, and state.

Directions from home to school:
