

Here's an Instant Activity for May 5, 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 3



PURPOSE

Concept: Homophones are words that sound the same but have different spellings and meanings.

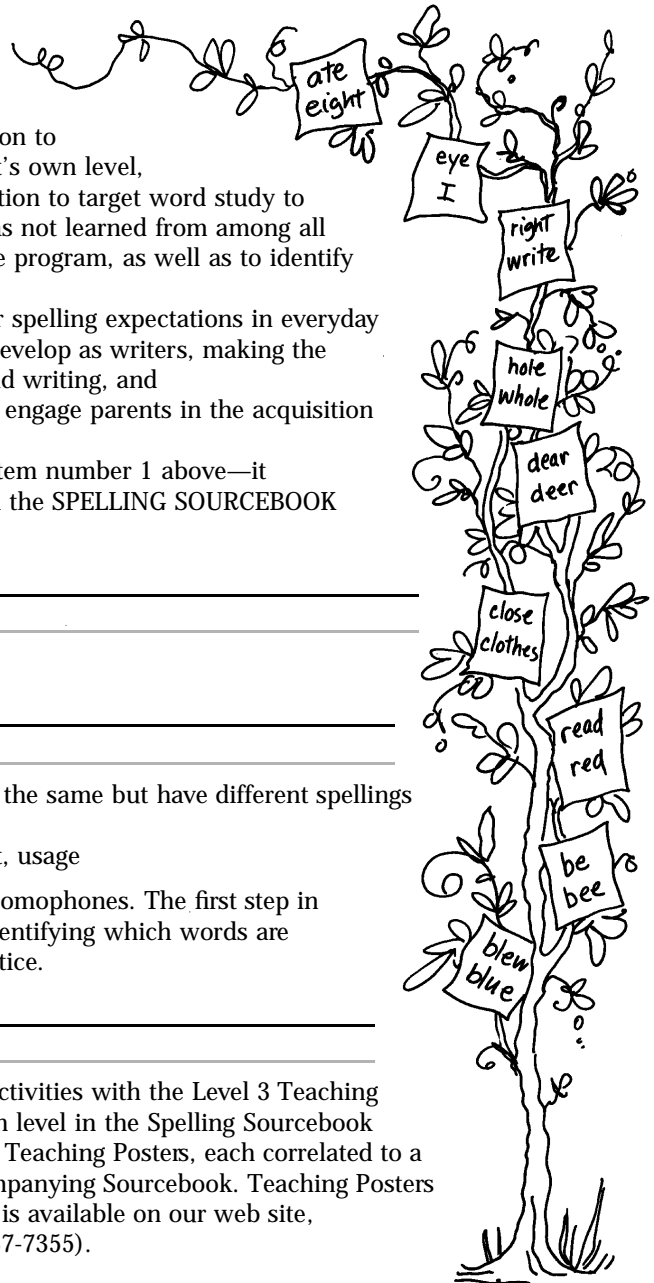
Skills: homophones, vocabulary development, usage

This Instant Activity provides practice with homophones. The first step in mastering the challenge of homophones is identifying which words are homophones. This activity provides this practice.



SUGGESTED USE

This Instant Activity can be used to extend activities with the Level 3 Teaching Poster 5, "Watch Out for Homophones." Each level in the Spelling Sourcebook Series, Second Edition, comes with five large Teaching Posters, each correlated to a Personal Poster blackline master in the accompanying Sourcebook. Teaching Posters can be purchased separately (an Order Form is available on our web site, www.sittonspelling.com, or by calling 888-937-7355).





TEACHING DIRECTIONS

Ask students to brainstorm homophone sets. Time the session (about three minutes). Then make a cumulative list on the chalkboard. Ask students to take turns adding one homophone set to the chalkboard. Discuss the meaning and use of the homophones as they are written.

Have students explain why homophones can present a problem for a writer.

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 before students begin the exercise.

If students experience difficulty with the Instant Activity, you may wish to have them work in small groups to complete the exercise. Further, you could indicate how many homophones they should identify (there are twenty-five). For classrooms that have the Spelling Sourcebook Teaching Poster “Watch Out for Homophones,” the poster could be posted to aid students’ identification of the homophones on the Instant Activity.



FOLLOW-UP

Identify the homophones and their homophone partners. To do so, you may wish to have students check their work against the Level 5 Teaching Poster “Watch Out for Homophones.”

Answers: ate (eight), be (bee), blue (blew), buy (bye), close (clothes), deer (dear), do (due, dew), eye (I, aye), for (four, fore), here (hear), hole (whole), hour (our), horse (hoarse), its (it’s), know (no), made (maid), past (passed), right (write), road (rode, rowed), sea (see), there (their, they’re), two (to, too), way (weigh), whose (who’s), would (wood)



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

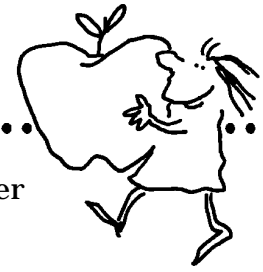
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800-676-6630

503-639-2559 (fax)

Build Skills and Word Experiences



Name _____, Super Speller

Homophones

Homophones, homophones!

Which words are you?

I will find you—let the hunt ensue!



Circle the homophones.

ate	color	has	right
age	close	help	road
able	copy	here	sea
be	deer	hole	south
began	didn't	hour	stand
blue	dog	horse	there
boat	door	its	tree
book	down	into	than
boy	do	know	turn
buy	did	like	two
call	eye	many	up
child	for	made	way
circle	far	past	whose
city	fast	put	would
cold	hand	race	wrong

How many homophones did you find? _____