

Here's an Instant Activity for September 15, 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.



LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

Approximately Grade 7



PURPOSE

Concept: Homographs are words that have the same spelling, different meanings, and may have different pronunciations.

Skills: vocabulary development, writing, proofreading



SUGGESTED USE

This Instant Activity can be used to complement activities that reinforce the study of homographs, such as Activity B, page 20, in Level 7 of the Spelling Sourcebook Series, Second Edition.



TEACHING DIRECTIONS

Ask students to write what they know about homographs. This provides information regarding students' prior knowledge of this special set of words.

Conclude that homographs are words that have the same spelling, different meanings, and may have different pronunciations.

Then ask students to listen for the inclusion of a homograph as you read the following: The silver dove sat on the limb of the oak tree that extended over the pond watching the ducks swimming below. That is, until Davey, our neighbor's labrador, dove into the water in pursuit of the ducks. (Note: If students have difficulty identifying *dove* as the homograph in the passage, proceed to distribute a copy of the Instant Activity to each student and have them read the passage. Seeing the repetition of *dove* in the

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passage will provide the clue.)

Print the Instant Activity and distribute a copy to each student. Note that the model passage is the passage that was read to students for them to identify the homograph *dove*.



FOLLOW-UP

Have students use their Instant Activity homograph grid to play bingo. Gather students' homograph passages and randomly read one to the class. Students mark the box on their grid that contains the homograph in the passage. Continue to read students' passages. The first student to have all boxes marked in a predetermined row or column on the homograph grid calls, "Bingo!" and is the winner.



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 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.

To learn how to use the Spelling Sourcebook Series:

1. 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.
2. Use the **NEW TUTOR ME** Training Video/CD-ROM for your grade level either on your own or in a small group. Rebecca Sitton guides you through a complete unit, tells you exactly what to do, and why. Set aside about two hours to acquire complete expertise, or learn about each part of a unit as you need it. Invite parents to discover how their child will be learning to spell with the Parent Introduction. Visit www.sittonspelling.com for more information.

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

Homographs

Some words look exactly alike, identically bedecked—
Live and live, tear and tear, close and close, object and object.
Study the homographs—you owe them patience and respect.

Select sixteen homographs from this list to write in the grid below—you decide in which box to place each one:

bass, conduct, content, contract, converse, desert, does, excuse, invalid, object, present, produce, record, refuse, sow, suspect, tear, wind

Then, on another sheet of paper, use this model to write each homograph on your grid in a passage in which both meanings are included:

The silver dove sat on the limb of the oak tree that extended over the pond watching the ducks swimming below. That is, until Davey, our neighbor's labrador, dove into the water in pursuit of the ducks.
