

Here's an Instant Activity for January 19, 2004



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 numbers 1 and 2 above.



LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

Approximately Grade 4



PURPOSE

To provide proofreading practice using a frequently used standardized test format for spelling assessment.

Skills: spelling, proofreading, test taking



SUGGESTED USE

This Instant Activity can be used to complement Level 4 of the Spelling Sourcebook Series, Second Edition. Often at the fourth grade level, students benefit from standardized test format practice. This practice is included in *every unit* in Levels 5–8 in “Proof It.” To make the activity authentic, the items for proofreading are not limited to only those words and skills included heretofore in the students’ instruction in the Series. Further, the formats of the tests parallel standardized test formats to help students develop test-wise skills prior to their taking an actual standardized test.



TEACHING DIRECTIONS

Print the Instant Activity and distribute a copy to each student. Ask students to silently read the directions: *Proofread for one spelling, capitalization, or punctuation error in the underlined parts. Circle errors. Write corrections in the space.* Point out that the directions indicate that there is *one* error in each line, and that they specify the *kinds of errors* to look for. Then have students complete the activity independently.



FOLLOW-UP

The Instant Activity can be corrected and graded, or it can be self-checked with teacher guidance, and discussed.



Their's an old saying: The harder you work, the luckyer you get. Of course, the proverb means that hard work is more important for sucess than being lucky. In fact, some peopel try hard to create good luck, they believe in a variety of good luck charms to help them acheive a goal. For example, probably the most univesel lucky charm is the horseshoe. Families have attashed a horseshoe above the Front door of their home thinking that this would bring good fourtune to them. yet it was thought that the horseshoe could only be hung with it's points upward to be efective. Otherwise, the luck would drain out the bottom of the shoe!

There's _____
luckier _____
sucess _____
peopel _____
. They _____
acheive _____
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attashed _____
front _____
fortune _____
Yet _____
its _____
efective _____



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

Proof It



Proofread for one spelling, capitalization, or punctuation error in the underlined parts. Circle errors. Write corrections in the space.

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Contrast a person who ascribes to the proverb in the story with another who attributes all their fulfillment, or lack of it, to luck.



FOR GRINS

How many words can be made from the letters in "horseshoe"? Hypothesize the number, write the words, count, and check your original hypothesis. How many more words were you able to make than your projected number?