

# Here's an Instant Activity for November 15, 2004



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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 develop item number 1 above—and item number 4, if the activity is assigned as homework.



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## LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

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Approximately Grade 6



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## PURPOSE

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Concept: Some words have capital letters.

Skills: capital letter usage, map skills, spelling important city names, geography, editing, proofreading



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## SUGGESTED USE

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Use this Instant Activity with Build Skillful Writers (page 66), Unit 8, in Level 6 of the Spelling Sourcebook Series.



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## TEACHING DIRECTIONS

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Organize students into small groups. Provide each group with language-use references. Have students research capitalization. Then provide each group with a chart/marker and ask them to list when capital letters are used. Have groups present their chart to the class. Note that city names are among the words that require a capital letter at the beginning of the word. Then ask students to use the charts to write these sentences using proper capitalization:

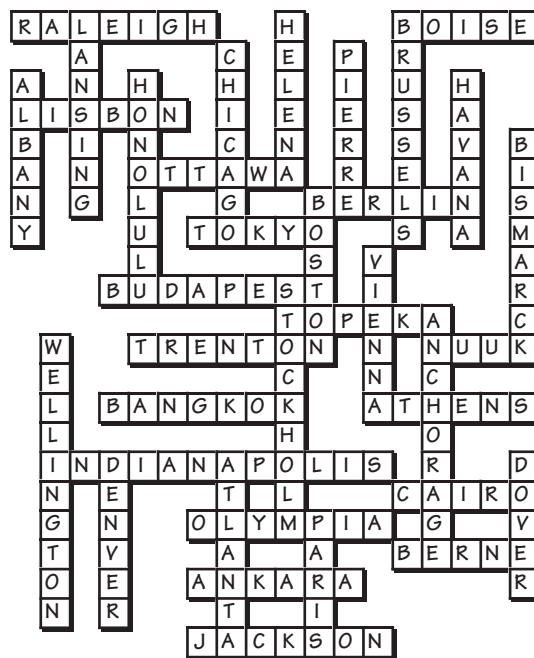
1. the alpine board of education met last monday.
2. "a polar bear was born at the san diego zoo," announced mr. lee, the zoo spokesperson.
3. the song that mayor jan braun requested be sung for the firefighters was "god bless america."
4. the president will greet delegates from the girl scouts of america when they tour the white house this spring.
5. the canadian prime minister addressed the people in both french and english.

Provide students with maps for a resource to complete this Instant Activity puzzle. Print the Instant Activity and distribute a copy to each student. Discuss the activity to ensure that students know what is expected. Then ask students to complete the activity at home or at school.



### FOLLOW-UP

Have students share their word puzzles. Then have students select one city among those in their puzzle to research for a trivia game. Students write interesting facts about the city to present to the class. The class tries to identify which crossword city is the one being described.



### 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. Further extend the concepts and skills of the Spelling Sourcebook Series with Word-Wise Sourcebook Three for fifth and sixth grade.

To learn about the 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](http://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](http://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](http://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

## City Names Begin with Capital Letters

Use the clues to identify cities around the world to complete your puzzle.  
Remember, city names begin with a capital letter!

The crossword puzzle grid consists of 34 numbered starting points for city names. The numbers are distributed as follows:

- 1: 10 letters, horizontal
- 2: 8 letters, horizontal
- 3: 7 letters, vertical
- 4: 10 letters, horizontal
- 5: 6 letters, vertical
- 6: 7 letters, vertical
- 7: 4 letters, horizontal
- 8: 4 letters, horizontal
- 9: 7 letters, vertical
- 10: 6 letters, horizontal
- 11: 10 letters, vertical
- 12: 4 letters, horizontal
- 13: 6 letters, horizontal
- 14: 6 letters, horizontal
- 15: 6 letters, vertical
- 16: 8 letters, horizontal
- 17: 5 letters, horizontal
- 18: 4 letters, horizontal
- 19: 4 letters, horizontal
- 20: 6 letters, vertical
- 21: 6 letters, horizontal
- 22: 6 letters, horizontal
- 23: 6 letters, horizontal
- 24: 6 letters, horizontal
- 25: 6 letters, horizontal
- 26: 6 letters, horizontal
- 27: 6 letters, horizontal
- 28: 6 letters, horizontal
- 29: 6 letters, horizontal
- 30: 4 letters, horizontal
- 31: 4 letters, horizontal
- 32: 6 letters, horizontal
- 33: 4 letters, horizontal
- 34: 6 letters, horizontal



## City Names Begin with Capital Letters

### ACROSS

1. capital of North Carolina
4. capital of Idaho
10. capital of Portugal
12. capital of Canada
13. capital of Germany
14. capital of Japan
16. capital of Hungary
18. capital of Kansas
21. capital of New Jersey
22. capital of Greenland
23. capital of Thailand
24. capital of Greece
25. capital of Indiana
29. capital of Egypt
30. capital of Washington
32. capital of Switzerland
33. capital of Turkey
34. capital of Mississippi

### DOWN

2. capital of Michigan
3. capital of Montana
4. capital of Belgium
5. largest city in Illinois
6. capital of South Dakota
7. capital of New York
8. capital of Hawaii
9. capital of Cuba
11. capital of North Dakota
13. capital of Massachusetts
15. capital of Austria
17. capital of Sweden
19. largest city in Alaska
20. capital of New Zealand
26. capital of Colorado
27. capital of Georgia
28. capital of Delaware
31. capital of France