

Here's an Instant Activity for December 20, 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 develop item number 1 above—and item number 4, if the activity is assigned as homework.



LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

Approximately Grade 1



PURPOSE

Concept: The development of visual skills contributes to effective spelling and proofreading.

Skills: word analysis, visual skills, alphabetical order

First, this Instant Activity develops emerging wordsmiths' ability to see each sequential letter in a word, and to discriminate among its letters to form other words using the letters that make up the word. This skill aids the development of spelling and proofreading. All standardized tests are proofreading/editing tests, so the formation of visual skills establishes the foundation for able performance on these tests in later grades.

Second, students practice the reverse skill. They learn to see a small word in their mind's eye as a sequence of letters within in a larger word.



SUGGESTED USE

Use this Instant Activity to extend Find It (page 41), Unit 7, in Level 1 of the Spelling Sourcebook Series.



TEACHING DIRECTIONS

Write *the* on the chalkboard. Ask students to look at *the* carefully to see whether they can find another word's letters inside of *the*. Conclude that *he* is a word inside of *the*. Underline *he*. Repeat the activity with *and* to find *an* and *a*. Continue with *where* (*here, he, her*).

Next, 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 pair, share, and proofread their responses. Choose some students to write selected words from the activity on the chalkboard to discuss. Select words for which students were to identify words inside of given words, as well as small words for which students found big words that contained the small words.

For challenge, have students alphabetize the small words they found inside of a big word.



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 Level 1 Spelling Sourcebook. Further extend the concepts and skills in the Spelling Sourcebook Series with Word-Wise Sourcebook One for first and second grade, the Level 1 Core Word Activity Cards, and the Level 1 Word Skills in Rhythm and Rhyme CD-ROM/Activity Master Sourcebook.

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.

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

Words Hide Inside

Write words you find inside of these words.

they

when

this

other

what

there

down

yellow

On the back of this paper, write big words that contain on, is, at, or it.