

Here's an Instant Activity for January 17, 2005



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



LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

Approximately Grade 7



PURPOSE

Concept: Symbols convey meaning without words.

Skills: awareness of symbols in communication and the ideas/words for which they stand



SUGGESTED USE

Use this Instant Activity with Build Skillful Writers (page 237), Unit 27, in Level 7 of the Spelling Sourcebook Series.



TEACHING DIRECTIONS

Begin by making this gesture to the class (see right).

Ask students for more examples of communication without words (e.g., nonverbal gestures, pictorial signage, pictographs, symbols).

Print the Instant Activity and distribute a copy to each student. Ask students to read the directions, then explain to a partner what they think is expected. Answer and questions that arise regarding directions.

Then ask students to complete the activity at home or at school.





FOLLOW-UP

Provide time for students to share and discuss answers. Ask students to research how the symbols came to be. Have students be on the lookout for more symbols. Create an ongoing collection of symbols and the words or ideas for which they stand.



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
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Build Skills and Word Experiences



Name _____, Super Speller

Symbols Communicate Without Words

Write the message that each symbol conveys.




































