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# Here's an Instant Activity for May 16, 2005



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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: A compound word is a combination of two or more words.

Skills: compound words, writing a definition, vocabulary development



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## SUGGESTED USE

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Use this Instant Activity with the Unit 23, For Grins (page 205), in Level 6 of the Spelling Sourcebook Series.



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## TEACHING DIRECTIONS

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Ask students to define a compound word. Conclude that a compound word is a combination of two or more words.

Print the Instant Activity and distribute a copy to each student. Discuss the title of the activity including the meaning of the word *conundrums*. Discuss the For Grins chuckle at the top of the page. Guide students to discover the answer—a yardstick! Ask students to read the directions, then explain to a partner what they think is expected. Answer any questions that arise regarding directions.

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



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## FOLLOW-UP

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Have students share their compound conundrums and discuss answers. Then pair students to write more compound puzzlers to read to the class to unlock.

Answers: 1. applesauce; 2. motorcycle; 3. surfboard; 4. quarterback; 5. nightgown; 6. weekend; 7. pancakes; 8. goldfish; 9. sidewalk; 10. afternoon; 11. popcorn; 12. sailboat; 13. skyscraper; 14. sandpaper; 15. bookcase; 16. strawberry; 17. wastebasket; 18. breakfast; 19. rattlesnake; 20. billboard



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## FOR MORE

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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 grades.

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

## Compound Conundrums

Use the clues to write the compound words.



**FOR GRINS**

What has a foot in the middle and two on each side?

1. food made from mashed-up apples \_\_\_\_\_
2. two-wheeled motorized vehicle \_\_\_\_\_
3. ride the waves on this \_\_\_\_\_
4. player on a football team \_\_\_\_\_
5. clothing Mom might wear to bed \_\_\_\_\_
6. Saturday and Sunday \_\_\_\_\_
7. another word for flapjacks \_\_\_\_\_
8. small yellow fish \_\_\_\_\_
9. paved pathway next to the street \_\_\_\_\_
10. between morning and night \_\_\_\_\_
11. movie-goers snack \_\_\_\_\_
12. boat fueled by the wind \_\_\_\_\_
13. tall building \_\_\_\_\_
14. used to refinish furniture \_\_\_\_\_
15. library furniture \_\_\_\_\_
16. pink ice cream's flavor \_\_\_\_\_
17. place for trash \_\_\_\_\_
18. morning meal \_\_\_\_\_
19. poisonous, slithering reptile \_\_\_\_\_
20. large outdoor advertising sign \_\_\_\_\_