
Here's an Instant Activity for December 5, 2005



STRATEGY FOR SPELLING SUCCESS

For most learners, spelling well doesn't just happen. It is the result of a conscientious spelling and word-skill 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—and item number 4, if the activity is assigned as homework.



LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

Approximately Grade 5



PURPOSE

To provide practice spelling words with *ou* and *ow*.

Skills: spelling, phonics, vocabulary development, homophones, multiple meanings



SUGGESTED USE

Use this Instant Activity with the Level 5 Sourcebook (2nd or 3rd Edition), Unit 14, Test Ready, page 120. This activity can also be used with Word-Wise Sourcebook Three, Lessons 28 and 29.



TEACHING DIRECTIONS

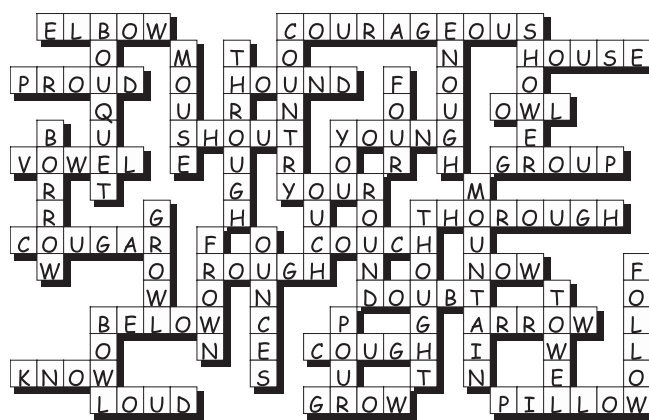
Select students to write on the chalkboard: *cow*, *snow*, *though*, *about*. Ask students which words have expected spellings and which do not (expected: *snow*, *cow*, *about*; unexpected: *though*). Review that /ou/ is consistently spelled *ou* or *ow* and that *ow* is a frequent /ō/ spelling pattern. Then discuss the Rough Tough group of words spelled *ou*. Remind students that *ou* can spell many different sounds.

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 and share their word sorts for accuracy and proofreading.



Next, have students identify puzzle words that are homophones (*know, through, your, you, four, pour*) and write their homophone partners (*no, threw, you're, ewe, for/fore, poor*). Then have students identify words with more than one meaning (*elbow, bowl, rough, through, shower, country*) and write sentences that demonstrate each meaning.



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 Sourcebook for Teaching Spelling and Word Skills for your grade level (grades 1–8). Extend practice and word exploration with the optional student Practice Books for Learning Spelling and Word Skills (grades 1–6), appropriate for use with both the 2nd and 3rd Edition Sourcebooks. Each Practice Book contains correlated activities for selected lessons from every Sourcebook unit, a proofreading/editing exercise for each unit, and pages in the back for students to record their Spelling Words for study.

Further extend the Level 5 Sourcebook concepts and skills with Word-Wise Sourcebook Three for fifth and sixth grades.

To learn about the Sourcebook Series for Teaching Spelling and Word Skills:

Request our free Overview Video (available in DVD and VHS formats) online at www.sittonspelling.com or by calling 888-WE-SPELL (888-937-7355).

Sign up to receive Rebecca Sitton's complimentary quarterly e-newsletter at www.sittonspelling.com.

To learn how to use the Sourcebook Series for Teaching Spelling and Word Skills:

1. Attend a seminar that explains and demonstrates lessons that reflect the 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, telling 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. Use the TUTOR ME Parents as Partners module to introduce parents to the program and show them how their child will be learning to spell. Visit www.sittonspelling.com for more information.

To order your Sourcebook for Teaching Spelling and Word Skills:

Order online at www.sittonspelling.com or contact:

Northwest Textbook Depository

P.O. Box 5608

Portland, OR 97228

800-676-6630

503-639-2559 (fax)

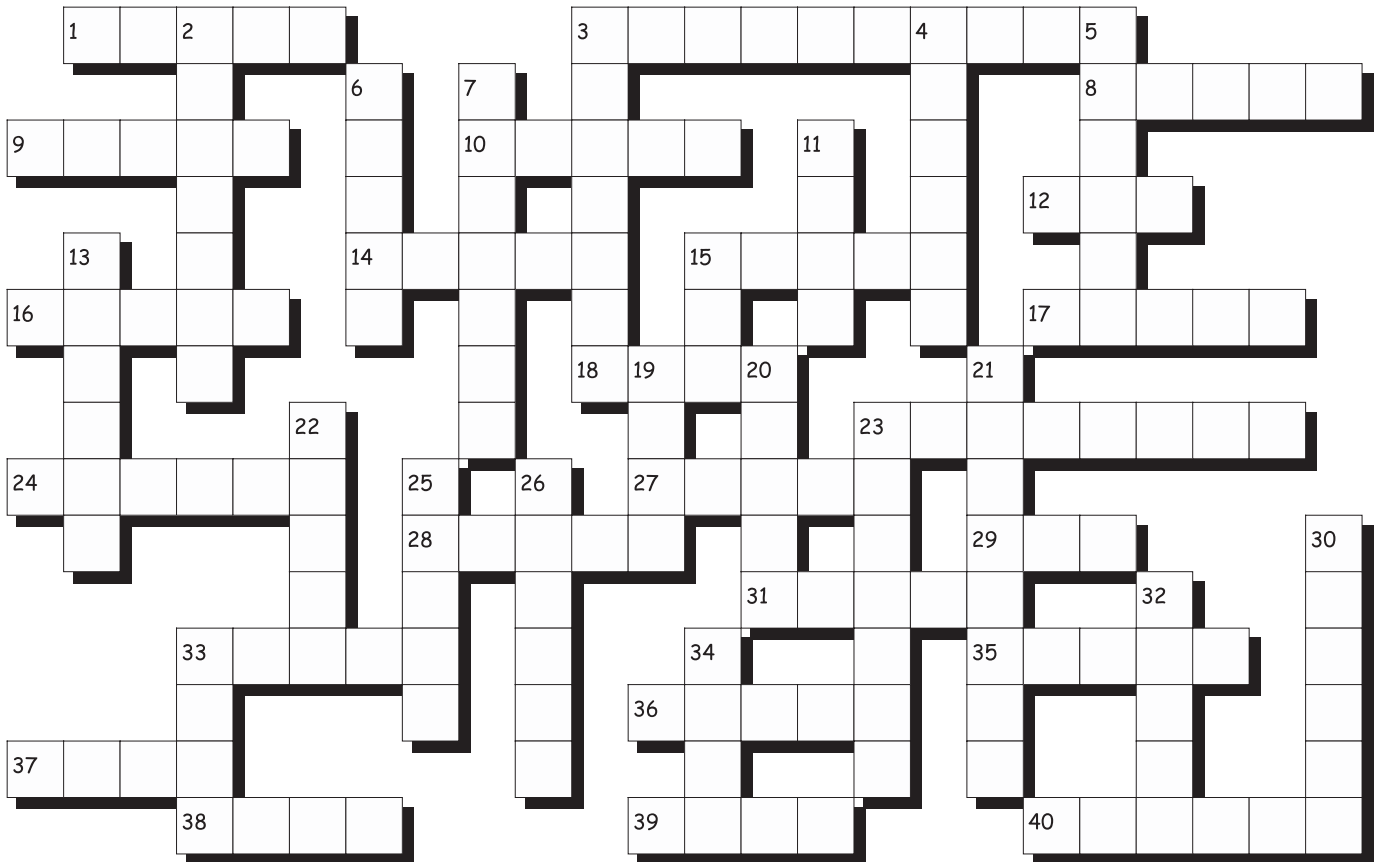
Build Skills and Word Experiences



Name _____, Super Speller

The Sounds of *ou* and *ow*

The letters *ow* can spell the sound heard in *snow* and the sound heard in *cow*. The letters *ou* can spell the sound heard in *about*, but they can also spell many other sounds. Complete the crossword puzzle with words spelled *ou* or *ow*. Then sort your puzzle words by the sounds *ou* and *ow* spell.



ACROSS

1. big joint in about the middle of your arm
3. brave, daring; opposite of cowardly
8. another word for home
9. pleased with oneself, usually because of an accomplishment
10. synonym for dog, pooch
12. a wise bird
14. yell, holler
15. opposite of old or elderly
16. not a consonant letter, but a ___ letter
17. several people, a crowd

18. opposite of my
23. detailed, complete
24. a large cat; not a lion, panther, or tiger
27. synonym for sofa
28. opposite of smooth
29. at this time
31. hesitation, uncertainty, disbelief
33. not above, but ___
35. bow and ___
36. if you have a cold, you might do this
37. be acquainted with or familiar with
38. noisy
39. raise, cultivate, produce

40. rest your head on this while you sleep

DOWN

2. an arrangement of flowers; a lovely ___
3. the United States is one
4. an adequate amount, sufficient
5. water you stand under to get clean
6. singular of mice
7. homophone for threw
11. six times two minus eight
13. opposite of lend

15. not me, but ___
19. owl
20. shape of a tennis ball
21. opposite of valley
22. noise a mean dog may make, a snarl
23. idea, notion, opinion
25. scowl
26. one pound equals sixteen ___
30. opposite of lead
32. use this to dry yourself off
33. usually eat soup from this
34. to rain heavily; opposite of drizzle