
Here's an Instant Activity for October 16, 2006



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

Meeting state standards is a priority of the Sourcebook Series. Instant Activities further support skills and concepts reflected in state standards.



LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

Approximately Grade 4



PURPOSE

To provide practice with irregular verb forms.

Skills: irregular verb forms, spelling, vocabulary development, homophones, writing sentences



SUGGESTED USE

Use this Instant Activity with the Level 4 Sourcebook (2nd or 3rd Edition), Unit 9, Add It, page 81.



TEACHING DIRECTIONS

Write *keep*, *want*, *look*, and *run* on the chalkboard. Select students to write the past tense form of each word (*kept*, *wanted*, *looked*, *ran*). Review with students that the past tense form of most verbs is formed by adding *ed*, but that for some verbs—like *keep/kept* and *run/ran*—the past tense form is a different word. These are called irregular verbs.

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 share their answers. Past tense irregular verb forms: 1. caught; 2. wrote; 3. heard; 4. did; 5. thought; 6. made; 7. threw; 8. took; 9. flew; 10. rang; 11. read; 12. began; 13. blew; 14. wore; 15. told; 16. won; 17.

brought; 18. rode; 19. ate; 20. knew.

Apple activity answers: Past tense forms that are homophones and their partners: caught/cot, wrote/rote, heard/herd, made/maid, threw/through, flew/flu/flue, read/red, blew/blue, wore/war, told/tolled, won/one, rode/road/rowed, ate/eight, knew/new. Present tense forms that are homophones and their partners: write/right, hear/here, do/due, ring/wring, read/reed, know/no.

Then have students select three homophone sets to use in sentences—but have them leave the homophone word blank. Students exchange papers with a partner and fill in the correct homophone.



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). Download and print a sample unit for your grade level from our website, www.sittonspelling.com.
- 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. Download and print sample pages for your grade level from our website, www.sittonspelling.com.
- Further extend the Level 4 Sourcebook concepts and skills with Word-Wise Sourcebook Two for third and fourth grades and SOME WORDS, Rebecca Sitton's NEW vocabulary mini-course series for upper grade wordsmiths. Visit our website, www.sittonspelling.com, to download and print sample pages and to check publication dates for specific titles in the SOME WORDS Vocabulary Mini-Course Series.
- **Sign up** at www.sittonspelling.com to receive Rebecca Sitton's complimentary *Appleseed* e-newsletter. The *Appleseed* is published three times each year, with new issues available the first week of November, January, and March. Each *Appleseed* contains Word Skills and Sourcebook Teaching Tips, answers reader questions, and informs you of current, pertinent educational information.

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).

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 TUTOR ME Training 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.

Order your Sourcebook for Teaching Spelling and Word Skills online at www.sittonspelling.com.

Alternate order sources:

- *Texas*: Resolve Corporation, 600 Freeport Parkway, Coppell, TX 75019
PHONE 800-266-5122 • FAX 214-452-6301
- *other states*: Northwest Textbook Depository, P.O. Box 5608, Portland, OR 97228
PHONE 800-676-6630, FAX 503-639-2559

Build Skills and Word Experiences



Name _____, Super Speller

Irregular Verbs

Write the past tense form for each verb.

1. catch

2. write

3. hear

4. do

5. think

6. make

7. throw

8. take

9. fly

10. ring

11. read

12. begin

13. blow

14. wear

15. tell

16. win

17. bring

18. ride

19. eat

20. know



Circle the past tense verb forms that are homophones. Write these words and their homophone partners. Next, circle the present tense verbs that are homophones. Then write those words and their homophone partners.