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# Here's an Instant Activity for November 6, 2006



## 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 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

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Approximately Grade 7



## PURPOSE

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To provide practice making nouns plural.

Skills: plural rules, spelling



## SUGGESTED USE

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Use this Instant Activity with the Level 7 Sourcebook, Unit 11, page 92.



## TEACHING DIRECTIONS

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Organize students into small groups to answer the question: What are the major ways to make nouns plural? Have students list each process with examples. Then make a cumulative list on the chalkboard or on a chart.

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

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Have students share their word lists. Discuss the six plural processes represented in the Instant Activity (for most nouns, just add *s*; for nouns that end in *s*, *sh*, *ch*, *x* or *z*, add *es*; for nouns that end in consonant-*y*, change the *y*

to *i* and add *es*; for some nouns that end in *f* or *fe*, change the *f* or *fe* to *v* and add *es*, some nouns are plural with no change; for some nouns the plural is a new word).

Then ask students to research how these *o*-ending nouns are made plural: *radio, potato, tomato, piano, memo, ditto, domino, hero, tango, motto, cargo, tornado, banjo, mosquito, zero, echo*. Have them sort the words by the method used to make them plural:

- To make most vowel-*o*-ending nouns plural, add *s*.
- To make most consonant-*o*-ending nouns plural, add *s* or *es*.
- To make some consonant-*o*-ending nouns plural, add either *s* or *es*, with one preferred.

Apple activity: Students should discover that these words all have more than one acceptable plural form.



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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 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](http://www.sittonspelling.com).
- Extend the Level 7 Sourcebook concepts and skills with SOME WORDS, Rebecca Sitton's NEW vocabulary mini-course series for upper grade wordsmiths. Check our website, [www.sittonspelling.com](http://www.sittonspelling.com), for publication dates of the specific titles in the series and to download and print sample pages to use in your classroom.
- **Sign up** at [www.sittonspelling.com](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://www.sittonspelling.com) for more information.

### Order your Sourcebook for Teaching Spelling and Word Skills online at [www.sittonspelling.com](http://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

## Plurals

Write the plural form of the words on the charts. Then add more words to each chart. All the words on a chart must be examples of words that are made plural in the same way. Legibility counts!

astronaut

address

identity

thief

salmon

mouse



Check the plural form of these words in the dictionary: buffalo, scarf, cactus, criterion, formula. What did you learn?