
Here's an Instant Activity for January 15, 2007



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 homographs and homophones.

Skills: homographs, homophones, spelling, vocabulary development, writing sentences, sorting words



SUGGESTED USE

Use this Instant Activity with the Level 4 Sourcebook (2nd or 3rd Edition), Unit 15, Concept Two, page 143.



TEACHING DIRECTIONS

Write *wind* on the chalkboard. Ask students to say the word. If necessary, provide clues to elicit both pronunciations of this homograph (e.g., the wind blew the clouds across the sky; wind the clock). Guide students to identify *wind* and *wind* as homographs: words that are spelled the same but have different pronunciations and meanings.

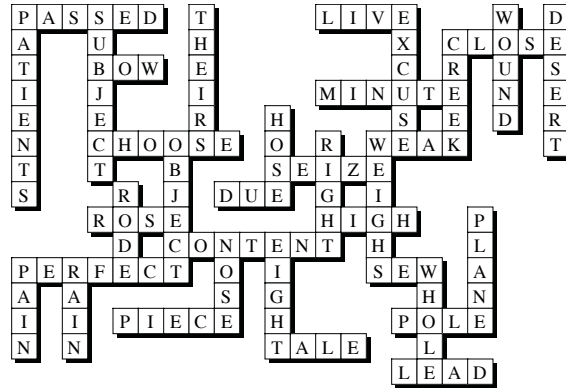
Next, ask students to contrast homographs with homophones (words that sound the same but have different spellings and meanings). Write *road* and *blue* on the chalkboard. Select a student to write the homophones for these words (rode/rowed, blew).

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

Review the puzzle with students. Then have students work in small groups to compare their lists. Next, assign each group different homographs and have them work together to write sentences that demonstrate the different meanings. Have students share their sentences.



Apple activity answers: Homographs: bow, close, content, desert, excuse, lead, live, minute, object, perfect, subject, wound. Homophones: choose, close, creek, desert, due, eight, high, lead, nose, pain, passed, patients, piece, plane, pole, rain, rose, rode, sew, tale, theirs, weak, weighs, whole.



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

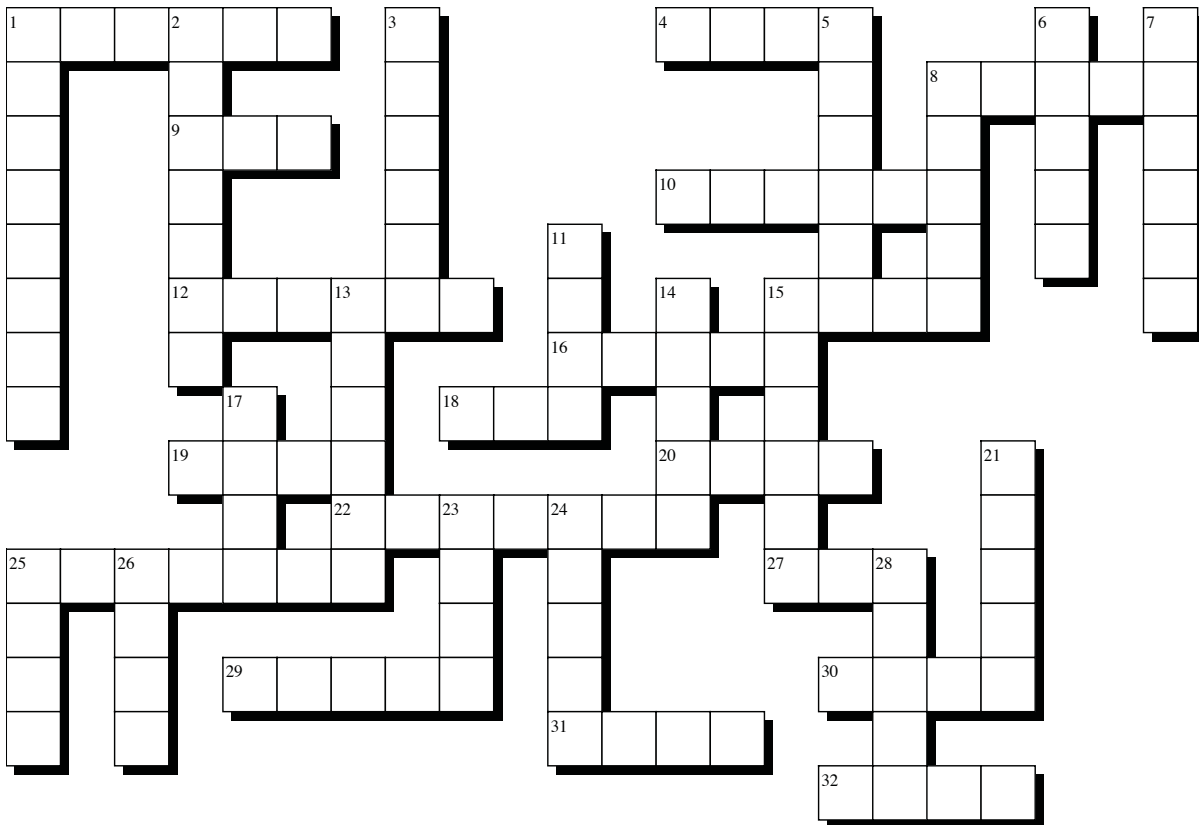
Build Skills and Word Experiences



Name _____, Super Speller

Homographs and Homophones

Use the clues to complete the puzzle. All answer words are homophones or homographs.



ACROSS

1. went by, went beyond, overtook
4. reside, dwell
8. opposite of open
9. at the end of the play, the actors do this
10. sixty seconds equals one of these
12. select, pick
15. opposite of strong
16. capture, grab
18. My library book is _____ tomorrow.
19. fragrant flower
20. opposite of low

22. happy, satisfied, pleased

25. ideal, just right
27. you need a needle and thread to do this
29. part, portion, slice
30. flag _____
31. story, fable
32. opposite of follow

7. arid, dry land

8. stream, brook
11. hook this up to a faucet to wash the dog
13. protest, oppose
14. opposite of wrong
15. My dog _____ twenty pounds.
17. past tense of ride
21. flies in the sky

DOWN

1. find these people in the doctor's waiting room
2. topic, theme
3. It belongs to them—it's _____.
5. reason, explanation
6. Put a bandage on the _____.

23. smell with this
24. twelve times two, divided by three
25. ache, hurt, soreness
26. water falling from the sky
28. not just part, the _____ thing



Write the puzzle words on another paper, sorted by those that are homophones and those that are homographs. Look closely at the puzzle words, because some are both homophones and homographs! Write those words in both columns. Then write the partners for the homophones.