
Here's an Instant Activity for February 5, 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 6



PURPOSE

To provide practice with words with silent letters.

Skills: silent letters, phonics, spelling, vocabulary development, sorting words



SUGGESTED USE

Use this Instant Activity with the Level 6 Sourcebook (2nd or 3rd Edition), Unit 19, Activity 1A, page 155.



TEACHING DIRECTIONS

Ask students what a silent letter is. Point out that the most common example is a final silent *e*, as in *scale*, that often forms the long vowel-consonant-*e* spelling pattern. Distinguish between silent vowels and silent consonants.

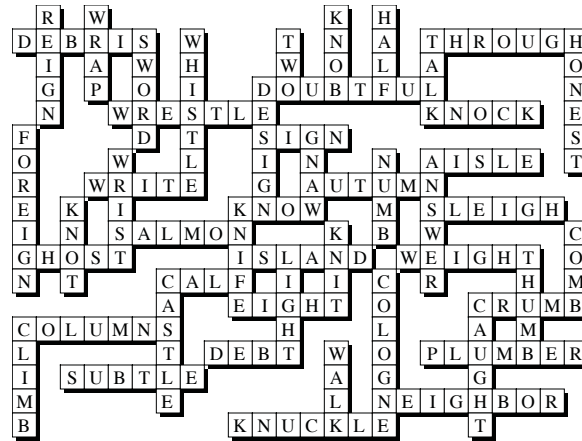
Tell students this lesson will focus on silent consonants. Provide clues for students to identify these words: *campaign*, *salmon*, *rhyme*, *condemn*. Select students to underline the silent consonants (g, l, h, n). Discuss common silent consonant spelling patterns, such as *gh* in *thought*.

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

Review the crossword puzzle solution with students. Discuss the meaning of unfamiliar words. Have students share the silent-letter words they came up with. You may wish to have students create a class book of silent-letter words.



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 6 Sourcebook concepts and skills with Word-Wise Sourcebook Three for fifth and sixth 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, Coppel, 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

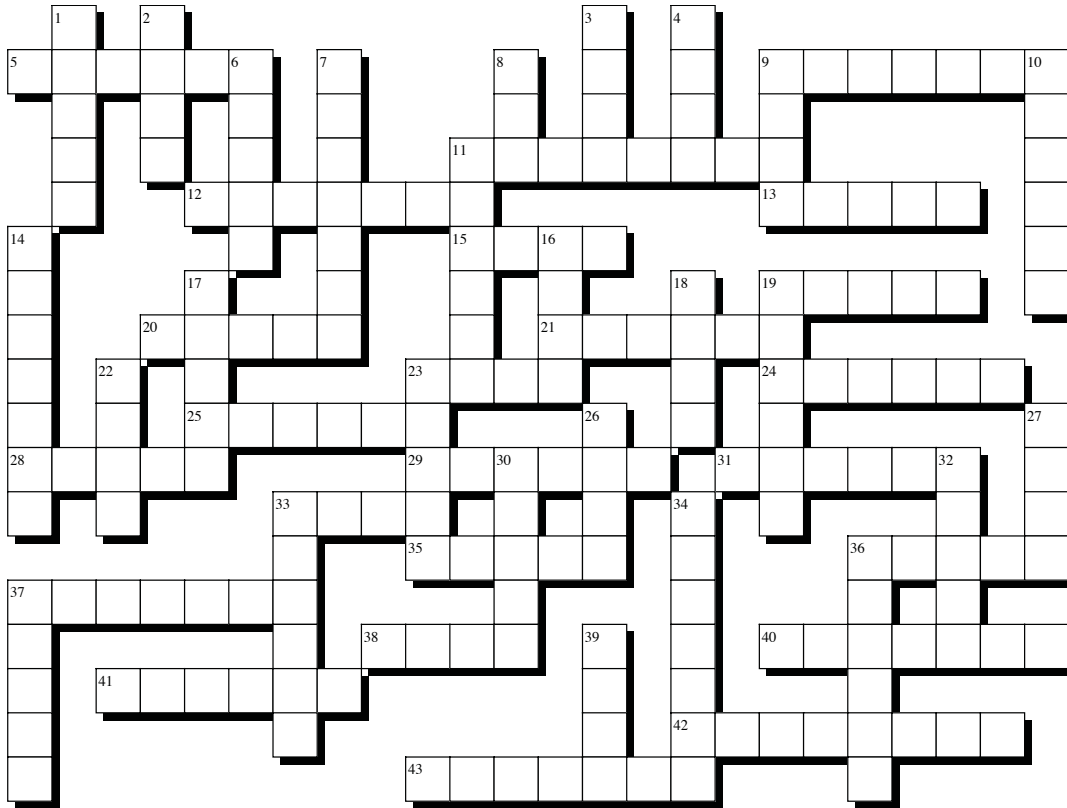
Build Skills and Word Experiences



Name _____, Super Speller

Silent Letters

Use the clues to complete the crossword puzzle. All answer words contain silent consonants.



ACROSS

- 5. rubble, garbage
- 9. homophone for threw
- 11. not likely
- 12. tussle, struggle
- 13. tap, rap, thump
- 15. marker, symbol, billboard
- 19. homophone for I'll
- 20. jot down, put pen to paper, note
- 21. season between summer and winter
- 23. understand, be aware of
- 24. homophone for slay
- 25. type of fish; swims upstream to spawn

- 28. apparition
- 29. Hawaii is one
- 31. the heaviness of something is its _____
- 33. baby cow
- 35. homophone for ate
- 36. morsel, bit, piece
- 37. a grid contains rows and _____
- 38. money owed
- 40. fixes problems with pipes and drains
- 41. discreet, not obvious
- 42. lives next door
- 43. finger joint

DOWN

- 1. homophone for rain

- 2. cover gift with paper
- 3. door handle
- 4. fifty percent
- 6. blade, weapon
- 7. a coach might use this small device to get players' attention
- 8. four times three, minus ten
- 9. speak, chat, converse
- 10. truthful
- 11. blueprint, plan, sketch
- 14. unfamiliar, alien, unknown
- 16. chew
- 17. joint between hand and arm

- 18. having no feeling, no sensation
- 19. opposite of question
- 22. tie up, tangle
- 23. goes with fork and spoon
- 26. do this with yarn and needles
- 27. use this to untangle your hair
- 30. opposite of heavy
- 32. stand-alone digit on your hand
- 33. king's residence
- 34. fragrance, perfume
- 36. past tense of catch
- 37. ascend, go up
- 39. stroll



Sort the puzzle words by their silent consonants and/or silent consonant spelling patterns. Then find and write more words with each silent consonant and/or silent consonant spelling pattern.