

---

# Here's an Instant Activity for October 1, 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 their child's acquisition of spelling skills.

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 7



## PURPOSE

---

To provide practice with shortcut word forms.

Skills: spelling, vocabulary development, contractions, abbreviations, blended words, initializations, acronyms, symbols



## SUGGESTED USE

---

Use this Instant Activity with the Level 7 Sourcebook, *The Wordsmith Says*, Unit 5, page 39.



## TEACHING DIRECTIONS

---

Write *bike* on the chalkboard. Ask a student to write its longer form (bicycle). Tell students that *bike*, a shortened form of *bicycle*, is a clipped word. It's one of several kinds of shortcut words.

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 to the Instant Activity. Then discuss the other types of shortcut words. Students can work in small groups or pairs to share their examples.

Answers: 1. refrigerator; 2. gasoline; 3. sister; 4. market; 5. telephone; 6. veterinarian/veteran; 7. referee; 8. mayonnaise; 9. advertisement; 10. tuxedo; 11. graduate; 12. typographical error; 13. hamburger; 14. champion; 15. mathematics; 16. zoological garden; 17. gymnasium; 18. limousine; 19. automobile; 20. teenager; 21. doctor; 22. airplane; 23. microphone; 24. examination; 25. taxicab; 26. laboratory; 27. french fries; 28. submarine; 29. necktie; 30. dormitory; 31. influenza; 32. memorandum; 33. professor; 34. omnibus.



---

## 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](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. Visit our website, [www.sittonspelling.com](http://www.sittonspelling.com), to download and print sample pages.
- **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 for grades 1-8:**

Request our free Overview Video (available in DVD and VHS formats) and/or download sample units online at [www.sittonspelling.com](http://www.sittonspelling.com). If you are interested in on-loan evaluation copies or would like more information, call us toll free at 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

## Clipped Words

*Bike* is a shortcut way to say *bicycle*. Shortcut words like *bike* are called clipped words. Write the longer form of these clipped words. Check a dictionary for any unfamiliar spellings.

- |                  |                 |
|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. fridge _____  | 18. limo _____  |
| 2. gas _____     | 19. auto _____  |
| 3. sis _____     | 20. teen _____  |
| 4. mart _____    | 21. doc _____   |
| 5. phone _____   | 22. plane _____ |
| 6. vet _____     | 23. mic _____   |
| 7. ref _____     | 24. exam _____  |
| 8. mayo _____    | 25. taxi _____  |
| 9. ad _____      | 26. lab _____   |
| 10. tux _____    | 27. fries _____ |
| 11. grad _____   | 28. sub _____   |
| 12. typo _____   | 29. tie _____   |
| 13. burger _____ | 30. dorm _____  |
| 14. champ _____  | 31. flu _____   |
| 15. math _____   | 32. memo _____  |
| 16. zoo _____    | 33. prof _____  |
| 17. gym _____    | 34. bus _____   |



Clipped words are one kind of shortcut words. Find and write examples of these language shortcuts: contractions, symbols (\$), abbreviations, blended words (brunch), initializations (TV), and acronyms (NASA). See how many examples you can list for each.