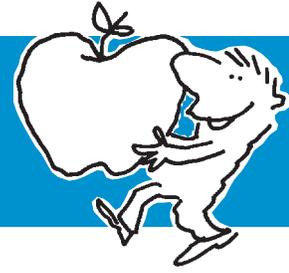

Here's an Instant Activity for March 3, 2008



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 6



PURPOSE

To provide practice with the many sounds *ou* spells.

Skills: phonics, spelling, vocabulary development, word analysis, writing, proverbs



SUGGESTED USE

Use this Instant Activity with the Level 6 Sourcebook (2nd or 3rd Edition), Unit 27, Activity 1A, page 236.



TEACHING DIRECTIONS

Select a student to write *throughout* on the chalkboard. Point out the two occurrences of *ou* in the word—and the two different sounds *ou* spells. Remind students that the *ou* in *out* is a consistent spelling pattern for /ou/, but the *ou* in *through* is a member of a “tough group.” Have students brainstorm *ou* spellings to conclude that *ou* spells numerous sounds.

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. Next, ask students to share their proverbs with the class.

Remind students that *ou* is the most erratic vowel pattern—it spells more sounds than any other.

Answers: 1. course; 2. through; 3. curious; 4. cough; 5. tough; 6. rough; 7. trousers; 8. enough; 9. anxious; 10. souvenir; 11. bouquet; 12. found; 13. cautious; 14. house; 15. cloud; 16. tournament; 17. country; 18. boundary; 19. court; 20. brought; 21. boulevard; 22. double; 23. famous; 24. couple; 25. journey; 26. limousine; 27. ounce; 28. courteous; 29. astound; 30. soup; 31. tourist; 32. courageous; 33. boulder; 34. doubt; 35. camouflage; 36. louder.



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.
- **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 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. 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. 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

The Rough Tough Group

All answer words contain *ou*.

1. _____ a program of study; lessons, classes
2. _____ homophone for the past tense of throw
3. _____ inquisitive
4. _____ often accompanies a cold
5. _____ antonym for tender
6. _____ antonym for smooth
7. _____ slacks, pants
8. _____ not too little, not too much, just _____
9. _____ nervous, eager
10. _____ something bought or kept as a reminder of a place
11. _____ an arrangement of cut flowers
12. _____ antonym for the past tense of lose
13. _____ careful
14. _____ dwelling, abode
15. _____ cumulus is one type
16. _____ series of games or matches
17. _____ Argentina is one
18. _____ border, edge
19. _____ tennis is played on one
20. _____ past tense of bring
21. _____ avenue, thoroughfare, road
22. _____ twice
23. _____ well-known, renowned
24. _____ pair, two
25. _____ voyage, expedition
26. _____ chauffeur-driven automobile (not a taxi)
27. _____ "An _____ of prevention is worth a pound of cure."
28. _____ polite, well-mannered
29. _____ amaze, astonish
30. _____ broth, chowder
31. _____ sightseeing traveler
32. _____ antonym for cowardly
33. _____ a huge rock
34. _____ hesitation, uncertainty
35. _____ disguise, conceal
36. _____ "Actions speak _____ than words."

On the back of your paper, sort the *ou* words by the sound *ou* spells.



Two of the clues above are proverbs. A proverb is a saying that tells a common truth. Write what you think these two proverbs mean. Then find and write more proverbs and their meanings. Next, write a proverb of your own using an *ou* word.