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# Here's an Instant Activity for March 19, 2012



## 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 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 Sitton Spelling and Word Skills®. Instant Activities further support skills and concepts reflected in state standards.



## LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY

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Approximately Grade 4



## PURPOSE

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To provide practice with prefixes meaning *not*

Skills: spelling, prefixes, word analysis, antonyms, vocabulary development, writing



## SUGGESTED USE

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Use this Instant Activity with the Level 4 Sourcebook (2nd or 3rd Edition), Unit 24, Activity 1A, page 232.



## TEACHING DIRECTIONS

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Select a student to write *possible* on the board. Then ask students how to change the word to mean *not possible* (add the *im* prefix). Write *impossible* on the board. Remind students that prefixes change the meaning of words. The *im* prefix means “not,” or “opposite of.” Have students name the other six major prefixes that mean “not,” or “opposite of” (*non*: *nonfiction*; *in*: *incomplete*; *il*: *illegible*; *dis*: *disagree*; *ir*: *irresponsible*; *un*: *unhappy*).

Have students work together to collect words to which these prefixes can be added. Make a cumulative list for each prefix.

Print the Instant Activity and distribute a copy to each student. Discuss the activity to ensure that students know what is expected. Then ask them to complete it at home or at school.



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## FOLLOW-UP

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Review the answers to Instant Activity. Discuss the meaning of unfamiliar words.

Answers (some answers may vary): 1. nonstop; 2. uncertain; 3. nonsense; 4. disappeared; 5. invisible; 6. uncovered; 7. nonfiction; 8. illegible; 9. impossible; 10. irresponsible; 11. unfinished; 12. dishonest; 13. incorrect; 14. insincere; 15. unusual



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## FOR MORE INFORMATION

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For more information about Sitton Spelling and Word Skills®, visit [SittonSpelling.com](http://SittonSpelling.com).

# Build Skills and Word Experiences



Name \_\_\_\_\_, Super Speller

## Use Prefixes to Make Antonyms



I can make antonyms with prefixes that mean **not**, or **opposite of!**

non

in

il

dis

ir

un

im

Finish each sentence with a word that contains one of these prefixes.

1. The train runs 24 hours a day. It never stops. It goes \_\_\_\_\_.
2. If you're not certain about what to do, you're \_\_\_\_\_.
3. What you're saying doesn't make any sense. It's \_\_\_\_\_.
4. A rainbow appeared after the storm, but now it's gone. It \_\_\_\_\_.
5. It cannot be seen. It's not visible, it's \_\_\_\_\_.
6. She took the cover off the pot, so the pot is \_\_\_\_\_.
7. It is a true story, not fiction. This book is \_\_\_\_\_.
8. The teacher couldn't read my homework because it wasn't legible. It was \_\_\_\_\_.
9. What you're asking simply cannot be done. It's not possible. It's \_\_\_\_\_.
10. I can count on you. You're responsible, not \_\_\_\_\_.
11. He did not finish his homework. He left it \_\_\_\_\_.
12. Not telling the truth is not honest. It's \_\_\_\_\_.
13. The answer is wrong. So if it's not correct, it's \_\_\_\_\_.
14. If you don't mean what you say, you're not sincere. You're \_\_\_\_\_.
15. How strange! This is not what usually happens. This is \_\_\_\_\_.



The less suffix changes the meaning of some words to mean "without." For example, someone without fear might be said to be fearless. Find and write words to which the less suffix can be added. Then use the words to create sentences like the ones above, but leave a blank in place of the word. Have a partner complete your sentences.