

Rebecca Sitton's APPLESEED



PLANT THE SEEDS TO GROW SPELLING AND WORD SKILL LITERACY.

Ask Rebecca

Rebecca,

This is my first year using the Sourcebook. How do I teach concepts, skills, and words my students missed in the previous levels?

Angie Fisk
5th grade

Dear Angie,

Not to worry! Review occurs automatically in the Sourcebook for Teaching Spelling and Word Skills. Anything your students missed can be revisited—it occurs automatically. I'll explain.

Begin on Unit 1. In each unit there is a section called Build Skills and Word Experiences that focuses on concepts and skills. The concepts, often called rules or generalizations, are identified in a headline that runs across the page. Under this headline there is a menu of activities from which you may choose to familiarize your students with the concept. The skills each activity targets are listed in the margin adjacent to each activity. Some activities on the menu are clearly review from previous levels, some are for

maintenance and reinforcement, while others are for extension. You select the activities that meet the needs of your students. Skip the others.

In addition to the review for concepts and skills, all words from previous levels are also reviewed. This review occurs automatically in the Word Test in each unit's section called Assess Words and Skills. The word bank from which the test words are taken for the Word Test is every word introduced since first grade. So, if there are words from previous levels that your fifth graders may not have learned long term, they will be identified and targeted for study. These words are their Spelling Words, and all are retested multiple times on subsequent Word Tests to ensure their long-term mastery.

So, just begin! Select activities in Build Skills and Word Experiences that are an appropriate difficulty for your students. Here you form your students' foundation for knowing how all words work. Then continue on in the unit to the section Assess Words and Skills where the specific words your students need to learn to be a better writer are tested and, when necessary, targeted for their study to ensure mastery. These words are your students' Spelling Words. Let me know your progress. We can work together to make *every child a speller!*

Rebecca

Do you have a question? Call me at home or toll free at the office, send me an e-mail, or set up a complimentary conference call through the office for a group of colleagues who have questions.

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