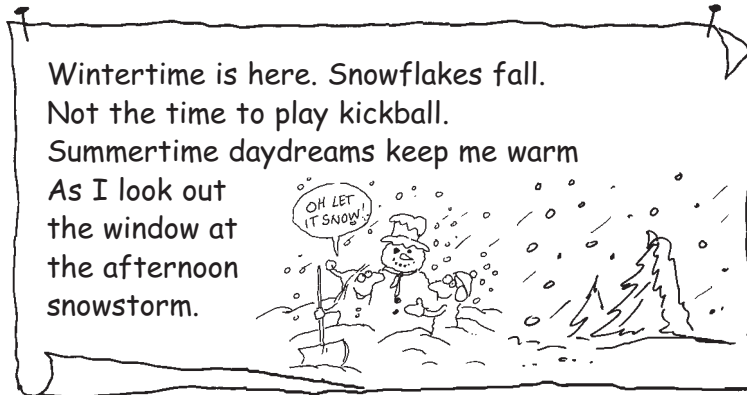


# Rebecca Sitton's APPLESEED



PLANT THE SEEDS TO GROW SPELLING AND WORD-SKILL LITERACY.

## Making Compound Words for the Primary Grades



Share the poem with students. First, read it aloud. Then ask students to picture in their mind's eye the scene the rhyme describes. If they were the person looking out the window at the snowflakes swirling about, what summertime activities might fill their daydreams?

Next, engage students to guide you as you write the poem. Ask students to predict the spellings as you write.

Tell students that some words are really two words that have become one. They are called *compound words*. Ask students to identify seven words in the poem that are compound words (*wintertime*, *snowflakes*, *kickball*, *summertime*, *daydreams*, *afternoon*, and *snowstorm*). Underline the compound words so that their two parts are identified.

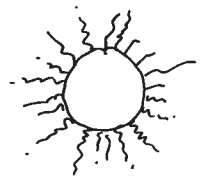
Tell students that some words are really two

Ask students to name other compound words. Attain two or three student examples. Write the compound words on a chart with a marker as students predict their spellings. These words initiate an ongoing compound word find—which may grow to several charts!

Over time, students can find and write more compound words. Ask students to write the compound words they discover on small sticky notes and place them on the compound word chart. Later, you record the words on the chart with a marker.

Once there is a generous list of compound words, bring a little sunshine into a winter day. Use the compound words in the Sunshine Game!

Using a small chalkboard or gel board and writing instrument, students prepare for the Sunshine Game by drawing a large sunshine with wiggly lines of warmth radiating from it. Then you (or a student) provide word clues. Say, "I'm thinking of a compound word in our collection that has a long *a* and a long *i* sound."



Students write the word they think is being described inside their sunshine and hold it up, faced toward you. Continue with clues until the exact word is identified (*daytime*). Then everyone writes the word, using the chart as a reference.

Let the Sunshine Game and the ongoing collection of compound words become a hot topic to melt the winter-time blues in your classroom!