

# Activities to Reinforce High-Frequency Words and Sight Words

- Create 2 sets of flashcards and play concentration/memory. Place the cards face down on a table. Have each player take turns flipping over two cards at a time, read the words and tell if they are the same. If the words are the same, the player keeps the cards.



- Make up sentences using the words. First you think up sentences, later let your child think up sentences for you to read.
- Have your child search magazines or books for the words. Pick out a few words a night to search for.
- Pick a few difficult words to work on and place copies of these words where your child will see them often.
- Have your child write the words in rainbow colors. Have him say the word, say the letters as he writes them and repeat the word.
- Line up several word cards on a desk or tabletop. Say one of the words and have your child point to the word and remove it from the row. Repeat the activity with another word.
- Lay the words on a flat surface, provide clues to the word and have your child find the word, for example: This word starts with the letter "a" and rhymes with car (are).
- Use a flashlight to highlight one of the words in a group of high frequency words spread out on a tabletop. Have your child read the word. Then give your child the flashlight and have her highlight a word for you to read.
- Make high frequency words using letter cards. Have your child close his or her eyes while you remove one of the letters. Have your child open their eyes and tell you the letter that is missing.

- Place several high frequency word cards on a surface. Challenge your child to use as many words as she or he can use in one sentence.
- Write on a piece of paper a sentence using several high frequency words. Read the sentence with your child as you point to each word. Then have your child cover his or her eyes while you cover one of the words. Have your child read the sentence and tell you what word is missing. Add the word and have your child read the sentence again to check. Alternatively, write the words on cards and have your child hold up the card that shows the missing word in the sentence.
- Place several flash cards face down in a stack. Have your child draw the cards and read them as fast as he she can. You can time your child and encourage him or her to read them as fast as possible. You might want to make a graph with your child and record their time over a period of several days.
- Give your child a set of flash cards. Have him or her arrange the words in alphabetical order and then read the words.
- Play "Bingo" to practice recognizing sight words
  1. Select 20 high-frequency words that you have been working with, and write each one on an index card.
  2. Have your child copy each sight word into a space of a blank Bingo board.
  3. Shuffle your deck of index cards and call out one word at a time.
  4. Each player covers the word that is called out with a marker.  
As they do so, be sure to chant the spelling of that word!
  5. The first person with a row covered calls out, "Bingo!"
- **"Imaginary Chalkboard"**  
Have your child pretend that he is writing on a large chalkboard. As he says each letter, he "writes" it as large as he can. After each word is spelled, have your child say the word as he or she "erases" it.
- **"Blast-Off"**  
Have your child start spelling the word while squatting. With each successive letter he or she stands higher and higher. When the word is said in its entirety, jump into the air.

- **"Pumping Iron"**

Have your child pretend to be lifting weights, one repetition for each letter. When he or she has chanted all of a word's letters, he or she can pretend to mount the barbell on its stand and sound exhausted saying the word.

