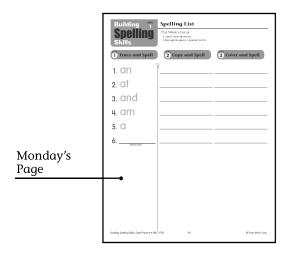
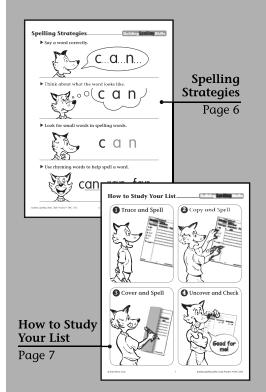
Teaching the Weekly Unit



Strengthening Students' Spelling Skills



At the beginning of the year, reproduce pages 6 and 7 for each student or on an overhead transparency. Review the general steps and strategies, encouraging students to apply them throughout the year.

Monday

Allot ample class time each Monday for introducing the spelling list and having students complete the first page of the unit.

Introducing the Week's Words

Give each student the spelling list for the week. Here are ways to introduce the words:

- Call attention to important consistencies noted in "This Week's Focus," such as a phonetic or structural element. For example, say: As we read this week's spelling list, notice that all the words have the same vowel sound.
- Read each word aloud and have students repeat it.
- Provide a model sentence using the word. Have several students give their own sentences.
- If desired, add "bonus words" based on the needs of your class. These may be high-utility words or words that the class is encountering in curricular studies.

Writing the Words

After introducing the words, have students study and write the words on the first page of the unit, following these steps:

Step 1: Trace and Spell Have students trace the word and spell it aloud.

Step 2: Copy and Spell

Tell students to copy the word onto the first blank line and spell it again, touching each letter as it is spoken.

Step 3: Cover and Spell

Have students fold the paper along the fold line to cover the spelling words so that only the last column shows. Then have students write the word from memory.

Step 4: Uncover and Check

Tell students to open the paper and check the spelling. Students should touch each letter of the word

Home Connection

Send home a copy of the Parent Letter (page 145) and the Take-Home Spelling List for the week (pages 10–19).

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Tuesday Visual Memory Activities

Have students complete the activities on the second page of the unit. Depending on students' abilities, these activities may be completed as a group or independently.

Wednesday Word Meaning and Dictation

Have students complete the Word Meaning activity on the third page of the unit. Then use the dictation sentences on pages 8 and 9 to guide students through "My Spelling Dictation." Follow these steps:

- 1. Ask students to listen to the complete sentence as you read it.
- 2. Say the sentence in phrases, repeating each phrase one time clearly. Have students repeat the phrase.
- 3. Wait as students write the phrase.
- 4. When the whole sentence has been written, read it again, having students touch each word as you say it.

Thursday Word Study Activities

Have students complete the activities on the fourth page. Depending on students' abilities, these activities may be completed as a group or independently.

Friday Weekly Test

Friday provides students the chance to take the final test and to retake the dictation they did on Wednesday. A reproducible test form is provided on page 142. After the test, students can record their score on the "My Spelling Record" form (page 141).

