

Title of Session: K-3+ Resources - Spelling

Moderator: Susan Roseman

Title of File: 20041110k3resourcespelling

Date: November 10, 2004

Room: Comfy Conference Room

SusanR: should we begin with intros, BJB

BJ nods to Sue

SusanR: so we can tailor this discussion to your needs

SusanR: I will start the ball rolling

SusanR: I am a K to 8 Occasional Teacher from Ontario, Canada

MelissaLG: I am a pre-service teacher at the University of Houston

LeticiaCu: I am a puma student at U of H and I will be student teaching next semester

ErikaF: I'm Erika and I am a PUMA student at the University of Houston

SusanR: and the facilitator for this discussion

TraceyC: I am a 2nd grade teacher in Houston Tx,

MichelleKe: I am a computer teacher K-6

CindyL: I teach third grade in a sage classroom, 15-1 in Milwaukee

IrmaG: I am preservice teacher at the University of Houston

VeronicaR: I am a puma student at U of H too in a kindergarten class

RobinLe: I am a pre service student at U of H

RobinLe: 4-8

SusanR: sage student???

RobinLe: but I thought this might be helpful in some way.

CindyL: sage is class size reduction initiative

JulieGF: I am a PUMA student at U of H also

IrmaG: Hi Pumas!

MelissaLG: HI

LeticiaCu: hi

VeronicaR: hey

RobinLe: GO COOGS

SusanR: and a PUMA student ..please define

PhungN: hi

SusanR: Welcome Phung! We are finishing our intros

TraceyC: I was wondering also

IrmaG: we are in the first semester of student teaching

VeronicaR: we are student teachers in a program at the U of H called PUMA

LeticiaCu: we are taking methods courses at the schools before student teaching

TraceyC: o i c

SusanR: Can I ask you a general question

SusanR: Is Spelling a stand alone program or is it integrated into your balanced literacy program....under "word study"

SusanR: or is integrated into all subject areas

MelissaLG: stand alone

TraceyC: it is integrated as word study

JulieGF: in the classroom I am observing it is both stand alone & integrated, if that makes sense

IrmaG: It is under word study

ErikaF: I would say integrated.

VeronicaR: integrated

CindyL: stand alone

SusanR: In the classroom I am exposed to I am seeing it as both integrated and stand alone

LeticiaCu: integrated

TraceyC: How is that done?

JennieM: are we talking about spelling?

CindyL: yes

SusanR: Is Spelling taught in any unique or innovative ways?

CindyL: no

JennieM: When you mean integrated...do you mean you get spelling words and mini lessons from other subjects you are working on?

IrmaG: In my class the students pick some of the spelling words

CindyL: I teach it stand alone, but I wish it was integrated

TraceyC: How is stand alone/integrated done?

CindyL: Yes Jennie

SusanR: It could be integrated with Science.. so if you are studying matter..the words would deal with that "subject" matter

SusanR: Have any of you read Eats, Shoots and Leaves

TraceyC: o i c

JennieM: I have a spelling book, we also have vocab words from lessons....My word wall has a lot of descriptive words i.e. other words for big, good, bad, pretty...

VeronicaR: no

TraceyC: no I haven't

RobinLe: no

IrmaG: we are studying the body and some of the spelling words will be body words

JulieGF: I read it. but I'm a spelling nut.

SusanR: If you are a grammar or spelling nut I recommend Eats, Shoots & Leaves: The Zero Tolerance Approach to Punctuation

CindyL: no

VeronicaR: I think I have heard of it before

ErikaF: never heard of that

MelissaLG: me either

CindyL: the title intrigues me

SusanR: It's a witty and satirical guide to punctuation

IrmaG: no

TraceyC: I have never heard of it

TraceyC: how can you get it?

SusanR: Here is the site <http://www.eatsshootsandleaves.com/>

TraceyC: Thanks!

IrmaG: neat

VeronicaR: cool

SusanR: any book store, Tracey or amazon.com

TraceyC: Thanks Susan

SusanR: It deals with apostrophe catastrophes, quotation bloation. mad dashes and other comma-tose errors

MelissaLG: cool

LeticiaCu: good

ErikaF: interesting

SusanR: http://www.fun-with-words.com/eats_shoots_leaves_review.html

TraceyC: sounds like fun

SusanR: they even have a game related to the book

GeraldO left the room (signed off).

SusanR: I think this is the Amazon link...

http://www.amazon.com/exec/obidos/ASIN/1592400876/ref=ase_raelitybytes-20/102-2323154-6834568

VeronicaR: thanks

TraceyC: thanks!

IrmaG: Does the game have the same name?

RobinLe: that's nice to know that there are resources out there

TraceyC: Ditto

RobinLe: I know I hated spelling in school

SusanR: Who would have thought a book about punctuation could cause such a sensation? Certainly not its modest if indignant author, who began her surprise hit motivated by "horror" and "despair" at the current state of British usage: ungrammatical signs ("BOB,S PETS"), headlines

VeronicaR: is the book for teachers or students?

SusanR: teachers and older students

VeronicaR: oh, ok

SusanR: could use the book as a read aloud

RobinLe: ok

TraceyC: That's good to know

LeticiaCu: good

SusanR: Anyone ready for some spelling strategies to use with students?

JulieGF: there are a lot of things you forget about grammar. we had to ask our prof what a predicate was.

IrmaG: good

LeticiaCu: yes

VeronicaR: yes

MelissaLG: yes

RobinLe: yes

ErikaF: yes

IrmaG: yes

TraceyC: sure

SusanR: strategies from the teachers desk....

http://www.teachersdesk.org/spell_plans.html

SusanR: Click on the blue link please ... http://www.teachersdesk.org/spell_plans.html

VeronicaR: this is great resource

SusanR: Find an area of the site that would work for you in your classroom setting
SusanR: and please share
TraceyC: great site
MelissaLG: great stuff, thanks
BJ . o O (the urls will be in your transcript so you can look at the sites later)
IrmaG: I like the spelling review game instead of the old spelling bee
WandaJP: what is the spelling review game
MelissaLG: I've seen sparkle and trace a word used and played in schools
MelissaLG: students really love playing sparkle
VeronicaR: I really haven't seen any of these games in my classroom
VeronicaR: these are really great!
WandaJP: I haven
SusanR: Spelling is more than weekly lists to drill and test — it's an important aspect of becoming a writer...
WandaJP: I haven't either
IrmaG: it was on the website, students work in groups to see what group can spell the word first
ErikaF: I have also seen sparkle and the kids do really seem to like it
LeticiaCu: great site
RobinLe: that is true Susan
ErikaF: sure is a good site
SusanR: Why not use the power of the Internet to support, extend and enhance your spelling program or balanced literacy program.
WandaJP: how would I get to the site
MelissaLG: I am all for that
CindyL: how is it an important aspect of becoming a writer, we do a lot of inventive spelling
LeticiaCu: it is sad but lists and drills are very used all the time
VeronicaR: that is true Leticia
TraceyC: I agree
SusanR: I think we need to provide a variety of experiences with words..rather than using word lists
ErikaF: That's pretty much all that I see used, list and drill
CindyL: Can you explain more of how it affects writing
VeronicaR: you are right Susan
RobinLe: that's pretty much all that was ever used
RobinLe: that is why I tuned spelling out
CindyL: I don't mean in just a being able to spell the correct word way
LeticiaCu: it is as if there is not enough time in the day to make spelling fun and engaging
SusanR: If it relates to science or social studies or math vocabulary..that may stimulate interest
IrmaG: Yes, if you integrate it into centers!
TraceyC: how do you successfully make your students accountable for spelling
RobinLe: I think Cindy, she means that the more you can spell, the better the writing can be

LeticiaCu: the teachers just give them the lists and the students start to memorize them

JennieM: I just bought the spelling book on Amazon ...thanks...Now I need to meet with my cadre

CindyL: thanks Robin

SusanR: Or if students can create their own word scrambles using puzzlemaker or whatever..that might peak their interest

IrmaG: you make the students accountable by letting them choose some of the spelling words

RobinLe: sure

SusanR: These ideas may help <http://www.busyteacherscafe.com/units/spelling.htm>

TraceyC: o i c

JennieM left the room.

RobinLe: yeah but I think that might lead to too simple words

ErikaF: don't most districts determine the words?

VeronicaR: we have to make it fun for students. so that they want to be better spellers

SusanR: Is there one here that works for you?

TraceyC: my district doesn't

SusanR: or puts the fun back into Spelling

WandaJP: my district does

LeticiaCu: the air spelling looks a bit difficult

RobinLe: a friend of mine that teaches a SAT course uses trade books to help with spelling

TraceyC: just spelling patterns on the phonics road map

ErikaF: I have never been a fan of air spelling

WandaJP: what is air spelling?

TraceyC: what is air spelling?

LeticiaCu: me either I have to see the words

VeronicaR: when you spell words in the air with your finger as the pen

LeticiaCu: it is on the site given to us

TraceyC: o

SusanR: I have used the "air" technique with grade one

LeticiaCu: how does it do

IrmaG: I have observed spelling in centers by using the words to write a story, using magnet letters, and word searches, if the students can not choose the spelling words

WandaJP: I don't think that is effective, I mean how do you know if the students are spelling the correct words

TraceyC: I agree

SusanR: These spelling ticklers may be effective

<http://www.schoolmission.net/SCHOOLHOUSE/speltic.html>

RobinLe: Maybe Wanda, they say and write the letters as they do it

TraceyC: accountability?????

WandaJP: that would work, would you individualize for your students

RobinLe: what do you mean?

WandaJP: and have you taken into consideration the time needed for air spelling

SusanR: time consuming, Wanda, but may work with select students

VeronicaR: you could do a few words in large group

RobinLe: it could be the same amount of time as drills

LeticiaCu: just like I said before, teachers think that there is not enough time to make spelling fun

LeticiaCu: they try to make the lesson fast

SusanR: What about the Spelling Bee

WandaJP: I think there should be a better way, I am for making spelling fun

VeronicaR: it might help those who have a hard time actually writing the letters

SusanR: Students enjoy that..or the Spellathon

RobinLe: but air spelling is not the only method

ErikaF: making things interesting doe stake more time and consideration but that shouldn't deter us.

WandaJP: if the students are given a list they learn to memorize the word, not learn

RobinLe: there should be many more

LeticiaCu: the spelling bee may make students feel insecure

MelissaLG: I think spelling bees are fun

ErikaF: I agree Robin

JulieGF: the same kids always win spelling bee, but maybe they could be improved.

SusanR: true, don't eliminate any students..work as a group or in teams

TraceyC: I agree also

IrmaG: I did not like spelling bees as a student.

VeronicaR: exactly

RobinLe: same here

WandaJP: I think spelling bees are great, high competitive

RobinLe: but with group effort maybe a spelling bee could be fun

SusanR: Here's a high tech approach to the spelling bee

VeronicaR: I remember them but wasn't affected too badly if I did not win

CindyL: I have a problem with teaching spelling in isolation. I think it is more meaningful and students learn the words if they connect to something

SusanR: It is called Spellbee <http://spellbee.org/>

WandaJP: I agree Cindy

ErikaF: I never did a spelling bee.

CindyL: I don't think it matters how fun the activities are unless they are connected

RobinLe: maybe spelling list could be generated from books that they students need to read

WandaJP: for what grade robin

RobinLe: that could create the connection that you are referring to Cindy

IrmaG: That is true they have to make a connection to the words

RobinLe: any grade

SusanR: Perhaps students could generate their own spelling lists?

LeticiaCu: in most cases the lists are provided by the district,

RobinLe: or at least any grade I think

VeronicaR: the spellbee website is neat

WandaJP: Maybe then the words would be too easy

TraceyC: How do you guys feel about word work? where the students manipulate letters to spell meaningful words, mix them up and spell them again

VeronicaR: do students do it in class

CindyL: I have thought of that, but then don't you have a different list for each student, and how do you know if you miss a word that they should learn

JulieGF: that is a neat idea Tracey.

WandaJP: I think that's great

RobinLe: I like that idea Tracey

IrmaG: yes they do, I have seen that in center time

LeticiaCu: my teacher has been trying to get them to change the list but nothing

VeronicaR: that idea Tracey is a fun one students enjoy

VeronicaR: they like the challenge

MelissaLG: I've seen word work done in the classrooms

WandaJP: I have seen many teachers do it and it is amazing to watch even k children make words from scrambled letters

TraceyC: The students keep their words in a zip lock bag all year.

TraceyC: their letters

ErikaF: I would like to see that in action.

CindyL: I do word work with my students during centers

SusanR: What about using REFLECTIVE TECHNIQUES?

TraceyC: the perfect time

RobinLe: what is that Susan?

SusanR: Students should be encouraged to reflect on their learning and the strategies they apply in the spelling process (metacognition).

TraceyC: please explain

RobinLe: ok

IrmaG: what is reflective techniques

SusanR: using Reflective Spelling Techniques

CindyL: yes, I like that

RobinLe: maybe

TraceyC: ok

SusanR: <http://www.education.tas.gov.au/english/spellstrat.htm>

MelissaLG: not sure

WandaJP: please explain

RobinLe: but I think that would lead them to all say that they just memorize their lists

RobinLe: because essentially that is what we do

WandaJP: true, Robin

RobinLe: we memorize

SusanR: children decide on the best technique to help them become better spellers

RobinLe: and some are able to file that away for a later day while others are not and so they forget

TraceyC: BINGO

CindyL: Excellent spelling strategies

WandaJP: I think the teacher also has a great influence over how the students memorize their words

SusanR: metacognition and reflective learning

<http://www.education.tas.gov.au/english/spellstrat.htm>

CindyL: at that last web site. It really helps kids think about their spelling

ErikaF: very true

JulieGF: Susan, is sounding out the word part of reflective learning?

SusanR: some ideas on using spelling journals..
<http://www.education.tas.gov.au/english/implementing.htm#journals>

SusanR: some good ideas on implementing the word wall and spelling

LeticiaCu: the last link is good we do some of that in our class

JulieGF: what is that link about, Leticia?

SusanR: There is a wealth of material on this site!

VeronicaR: there sure is

VeronicaR: all the sources you have given us Susan have been really helpful

TraceyC: yes

ErikaF: They sure have.

SusanR: feel free to copy and paste that link into the chat area, Tracey

WandaJP: is there a fee for spellbee, Susan?

MelissaLG: great sites

SusanR: The Spelling publishers have some good supportive sites

SusanR: like scholastic and Harcourt

SusanR: Scholastic places the learning right in the hands of the student to find the strategy that works for him/her.

TraceyC: I visit their sites often

SusanR: <http://teacher.scholastic.com/lessonrepro/lessonplans/instructor/spell3.htm>

MelissaLG: I've used scholastic

MelissaLG: great stuff

ErikaF: I love scholastics website

SusanR: This next one is designed to support Harcourt's spelling text; but can be used independently.

RobinLe: ok

SusanR: <http://www.harcourtschool.com/menus/auto/18/54.html>

TraceyC: Great stuff

SusanR: the same with Houghton Mifflin

SusanR: <http://www.eduplace.com/kids/hmsv/smg/>

WandaJP: I love eduplace.com

MelissaLG: another great site that I have used

SusanR: Here's some Spelling Games

VeronicaR: I have seen these sites before

SusanR: Let the students demo them to the class

VeronicaR: they have some great stuff on there

LeticiaCu: you have great information

SusanR: <http://www.gamequarium.com/spelling.html>

SusanR: Wouldn't students love to demo these to the class

TraceyC: Awesome!

VeronicaR: yes they would

ErikaF: these are some great sites

LeticiaCu: they are great

IrmaG: they are great

RobinLe: awesome sites

SusanR: Here is the list of most of the sites mentioned this evening

SusanR: <http://snipurl.com/spelling>

VeronicaR: I can't wait to use them in my classroom

VeronicaR: I am going to tell my mentor teacher about some of these sites

TraceyC: me too

SusanR: anyone have any others to share

SusanR: Do visit the K to 3 Resource Room

LeticiaCu: thanks for everything

VeronicaR: thanks Susan

WandaJP: thank you

JulieGF: thanks!

RobinLe: thanks a lot Susan great discussion

SusanR: GREAT audience

SusanR: I even picked up a few tips..I will use in grade one next week