

# Word Work Lesson Plan and Activities

Instructional Focus Based on the Words in the Book

**Word Work**

**A Chair for My Mother**  
By: Vera B. Williams  
Grade Level: 2 / Guided Reading Level: M

**Instructional Focus:**  
Prepositions / Prepositional Phrases

**Background:**  
Prepositions relate a location in the physical world. Prepositions answer the question of "where."  
Prepositional phrases begin with prepositional phrases relates spaces.

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**Step 1: Introduce the Focus of Word Work**

**Introduce Prepositions / Prepositional Phrases**

- Write some examples of prepositions on a piece of chart paper (examples: across, under, at, to, below, in, out).
- Tell students that the words you've written on the chart paper are prepositions.
- Explain that prepositions are words that tell about a location in the physical world. "The answer the question of "where.""
- Tell students that we use prepositions in phrases to tell where specific nouns are in the physical world.
- Ask questions to prompt students to tell where different items are in the classroom. (Example question: Where is the pencil sharpener? Example answer: The pencil sharpener is next to the sink.)
- Allow students to ask questions. Write the prepositional phrases that the class uses on the anchor chart.

**Step 2: Connect Word Work to Reading**

**Prepositions / Prepositional Phrases in the Text**

- Tell the students that the book they will be reading today has lots of examples of prepositions and prepositional phrases.
- Show them page 1 of *A Chair for My Mother*.
- Ask the students to listen carefully and look at the words while you read. Instruct them to raise their hands when they hear a preposition.
- After reading page 1, ask the students to identify the prepositions and prepositional phrases they heard. Add the words to the chart paper.
- Tell the students that you are going to read the book once from beginning to end. Tell them to be listening for prepositions. Remind students to be polite and not to interrupt while you read.
- Read *A Chair for My Mother*.

**Examples of Prepositions and Prepositional Phrases found in the Text:**

- In the Blue Tile Diner
- take down the jar
- in the kitchen
- in the whole world
- to our block
- in a bunch
- off my feet
- put it in
- wrapped them all up
- after school
- into the jar
- out of her purse
- in her old leather wallet
- in our other house
- outside our house
- into the apartment
- at the diner
- in front of the jar
- through four stores
- into the jar
- into piles
- over it
- to her room
- on a card kitchen chair
- to lift down
- counted them all out

**Materials and Preparation:**

- A Copy of *A Chair for My Mother*
- Chart Paper
- Prepositions / Prepositional Phrases (Step 1)
- Prepositions On a Chair
- Optional - Word Detective Worksheet
- Optional - 2 Colors of Ink

Step by Step Lesson Plan

Optional Activity to Extend Engagement

List of words in the book that match the instructional focus

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**Step 3: Guided Word Work Practice**

**Interactive Exploration**

- Tell the students that they will be playing a game similar to musical chairs called **Prepositions On the Chair**.
- Ask students to arrange their chairs in a circle.
- Give each student a card and a piece of tape. Tell them to tape their card to their chair (optional: write the prepositions on sticky notes).
- Remind the students how to play musical chairs. Explain that you will start the music and they will follow the path around the chairs. When the music stops, they must sit in the closest chair. You will call out a preposition. The student that has the preposition on his or her chair must make up a sentence using that preposition.
- If the student uses the preposition correctly, the music starts again and the play continues. If the students in unable to identify a correct example, he or she is out.
- Continue play until all of the prepositions have been called.

**Step 4: Independent Word Work Practice**

**Practice Page**

- Give each student a copy of **Prepositions and Prepositional Phrases Word Work**.
- Read the directions with the class.
- Tell the students to complete the practice page.
- Monitor students while they work.

**Step 5: Reconnect and Reflect on Word Work**

**Group Discussion**

- Bring the students back together.
- Ask students to explain what they learned about words based on the work they completed.
- Invite students to turn and talk with a partner about their word work.
- Invite 2-3 students to share what they learned with the group.

**Step 6: Extend Word Work (optional)**

**Extension Activity**

- Ask students to be on the lookout for **prepositions and prepositional phrases** in their own reading. Tell them to write their words on a sticky note and add them to the anchor chart (review the added sticky notes with the class later in the day or before moving on to the next word work lesson).
- Alternatively, students can keep track of the words using the **Word Detective Worksheet**.

Interactive Activities

**Prepositions on the Chair Interactive Activity**

**Directions:**  
Cut out the preposition cards below. Use the cards for the interactive exploration (Step 3).

about	beyond	save
above	by	since
across	down	than
after	during	through
against	from	to
along	in	toward
among	inside	under

**Prepositions on the Chair Interactive Activity**

over	within
under	without
beneath	into
before	behind
below	beneath
beside	

Independent Practice Page

Extension Activity

**Word Detective: Prepositions and Prepositional Phrases Extension Activity**

**Directions:**  
Be a word detective!  
Be on the lookout for prepositions and prepositional phrases while you read. Write the word that you find along with the title of the book where you found the word, the page, and the sentence with the word or phrase.

Word	Book Title	Page	Sentence

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Word Work Extension Activity | ©BookPagez.com

**Prepositions and Prepositional Phrases Word Work Practice Page**

**Directions:**  
Choose the preposition from the Word Bank below to complete each sentence.

**Word Bank**

in	off	after	outside	up	beside
into	out	to	down	through	from

- My mother works as a waitress \_\_\_\_\_ the Blue Tile Diner.
- I meet my mother there \_\_\_\_\_ school.
- We put our money \_\_\_\_\_ the jar.
- I counted the money \_\_\_\_\_ into piles.
- My mother takes money \_\_\_\_\_ of her purse.
- We sit \_\_\_\_\_ the kitchen to count the tips.
- We were walking \_\_\_\_\_ our house \_\_\_\_\_ the bus.
- Right \_\_\_\_\_ our house stood two big fire engines.
- We moved \_\_\_\_\_ the apartment downstairs.
- There's no good place to take a load \_\_\_\_\_ my feet.
- The jar is too heavy for me to lift \_\_\_\_\_.
- Uncle Sandy had to boast me \_\_\_\_\_ to put the quarter in the jar.
- We shopped \_\_\_\_\_ four furniture stores.
- We set the chair \_\_\_\_\_ the window.
- Mama sits \_\_\_\_\_ and watches TV.
- She can reach right \_\_\_\_\_ and turn of the light.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Independent Word Work Practice | ©BookPagez.com