

Word Work Lesson Plan and Activities

Instructional Focus Based on the Words in the Book

Word Work
Deadliest Animals
By: Melissa Stewart
Grade Level: 3 / Guided Reading Level: P

Instructional Focus:
Contractions

Background:
A contraction is a shortened form of two words written as one word. An apostrophe takes the place of the missing letter or letters. Often the word 'not' is used to form a contraction.

Examples:

They're	Does
Won't	I'll
She's	I'm
We're	Isn't
Hadn't	I've

Materials and Preparation:

- A Copy of *Deadliest Animals*
- Chart Paper
- Markers
- Sticky Notes
- Contractions Memory Cards
- Contractions Practice Page
- Optional - Word Detective
- Optional - Extend Engagement

Step by Step Lesson Plan

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Step 1: Introduce the Focus of Word Work

Introduce Contractions

- Direct students' attention to the prepared **Contractions** anchor chart.
- Read the definition of a contraction aloud to the students.
- Use the anchor chart to explain how a contraction is formed.
- Direct their attention to the words **have** and **not**. Explain that the word **haven't** is a contraction that is formed with the words **have** and **not**.
- Explain that when two words are combined to form a contraction, the first word stays the same while the second word loses some letters. Those letters are replaced with an apostrophe.
- Continue by discussing the contractions **ll** and **isn't** with students.
- Invite students to brainstorm additional contractions to add to the anchor.

Sample Anchor Chart

Full Word	Shortened Word	Contraction
Have	Not	Haven't
I	Will	I'll
Is	Not	Isn't

Step 2: Connect Word Work to Reading

Contractions in the Text

- Explain to students that the book they will be reading today has many examples of contractions.
- Show students **page 5** of *Deadliest Animals*. Tell the students to listen carefully for contractions and look at the page while you read. Ask students to give a thumbs up when they hear one of these words. As students respond, you can add the words to the chart.
- Pass out one sticky note to each student. Explain that they are going to listen as you read the entire book, and when they hear or see a contraction, they should write the contraction on the sticky note. Additionally, they should add the two words that were combined to make the contraction.
- After reading the book, have students share their contractions with the class. Discuss the examples they heard and saw and add the contractions to the anchor chart.

Some Examples of Contractions Found in the Text:

- You'd
- They're
- Aren't
- That's
- Who's
- Won't
- Don't
- Isn't
- What's
- You're
- Does'n
- It's

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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

- Provide each student with a set of sorting cards (allow students to cut apart the cards or provide them with pre-cut cards).
- Explain that the words on their cards are the base words used to form the contractions in *Deadliest Animals*.
- Review each of the words with the whole group, discussing any unknown words.
- Model how to play **Match Up**.
- Divide students into pairs and allow them to play **Match Up** (refer to attached resources for directions).
- Monitor students and assess students' understanding while playing **Match Up**.

Step 4: Independent Word Work Practice

Practice Page

- Give each student a copy of the **Contractions** practice page.
- Read the directions with the class.
- Instruct the students to complete the page.
- Monitor students while they work; collect worksheets when they are finished.

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 **contractions** in their own reading. Tell them to write their words on an index card and add them to the pocket chart. (Review the added cards 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.

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Interactive Activity

Contractions Sorting Cards
Interactive Activity

Directions:
Cut out the sorting cards below. Use the cards to **play Match Up** or use them to **sort by contraction words**.

Have not	Haven't
We are	We're
He would	He'd
We would	We'd
I have	I've

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Independent Practice Page

Contractions
Word Work Practice Page

Directions:
Match the words to the correct contraction they form when combined.

- They will
- It is
- He would
- We are
- Should not
- a. He'd
- b. Shouldn't
- c. They'll
- d. It's
- e. We're

Directions:
Complete the chart by either providing the contraction or the words used to form the contraction. The first one has been done for you.

Words	Contraction
I will	I'll
You are	6.
7.	I'd
8.	She's
Will not	9.
10.	Could have

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Extension Activity

Word Detective: Contractions
Extension Activity

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

Words	Book Title	Page

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