

# Word Work Lesson Plan and Activities

Instructional Focus Based on the Words in the Book

**Word Work**

**Hershel and the Hanukkah Goblins**  
By: Eric Kimmel  
Grade Level: 3 / Guided Reading Level: N

**Instructional Focus:**  
Contractions

**Background:**  
A contraction is when two words are combined together to make a new, shorter word with the same meaning. In a contraction, an apostrophe is used to replace the missing letters and combine the two words.

**Examples:**

not	is
shouldn't	she's
couldn't	he's
wouldn't	it's
doesn't	
won't	

**Materials and Preparation:**

- A Copy of *Hershel and the Hanukkah Goblins*
- Markers
- Scissors (1 per student)
- Colored Paper (1 per student)
- Making Contractions Bingo Boards (1 per student)
- Bingo Boards (1 per student)
- Dry erase boards (1 per student)
- Dry erase markers
- glue (1 per student)
- Optional - Word Detective worksheet

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

**Introduce Contractions**

- Please write a step-by-step lesson plan below according to the example provided.
- Explain that contractions are two words combined to make a shorter version. When the two words are combined, an apostrophe is used to replace the missing letters.
- Draw student attention to the list of words on the anchor chart. Tell students you will make a contraction by combining these words.
- Start with the words "do" and "not." Write the contraction "don't" next to "do" and "not" on the chart paper. Show how you removed the letter "o" and put an apostrophe in place.
- Repeat this process for the word pairs "it" and "is" and "we" and "will."
- Next, invite student volunteers to determine the two words that match each contraction. Begin with "we're". Repeat for the remaining 4 words.

**Contractions in the Text**

- Pass out a white board and dry erase markers to each student.
- Tell students that *Hershel and the Hanukkah Goblins* has examples of contractions throughout the story.
- Direct students to use the whiteboard to tally how many times they hear or see a contraction.
- Read **page 2** aloud. Ensure that students drew three tally marks for this page. Ask students to identify the contractions they heard or saw. (Answer: isn't, don't, and it's)
- Read the rest of the story.
- After reading, discuss how many contractions students heard/saw. Ask students to identify any specific contractions.

**Examples of Contractions found in the text:**

- isn't
- don't
- it's
- I'm
- can't
- who's
- nobody's
- that's
- there's
- won't
- you'll
- it's
- we'll
- you're
- weren't

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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**

- Distribute copies of the Contraction Bingo Board to students (Note: There are 5 different versions of the bingo boards. Each student gets one board).
- Make one copy of the Teacher's Contraction Word Cards. Cut apart or mark to keep track of the contractions you call out.
- Distribute scraps of colored paper to use as markers.
- To play, call out a set of contraction words. If students have the corresponding contraction on their board, they cover it with a piece of paper. Once students have an entire row, column, or diagonal covered, they raise their hand and call out "Bingo".
- Check words to ensure the student covered the correct contractions.
- Continue to play as time permits.

**Step 4: Independent Word Work Practice**

**Practice Page**

- Pass out the *Making Contractions* practice page.
- Make scissors and glue available to each student.
- Instruct students to cut out the contractions on the bottom of the page and glue them next to the matching words.
- 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 **contractions** 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*.

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Interactive Activity

Independent Practice Page

**Contraction Bingo Board**  
Interactive Activity

Bingo Board 1

she'll	wouldn't	can't	isn't	I'll
she's	hasn't	don't	it's	I'm
they're	we're	FREE SPACE	you'll	there's
we'll	he'll	won't	you're	he's
doesn't	couldn't	she'll	weren't	that's

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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 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

**Making Contractions**  
Word Work Practice Page

**Directions:**  
Cut out the contractions and glue them next to the two words that matches the contraction.

I	+	am	=
they	+	are	=
can	+	not	=
she	+	is	=
will	+	not	=
that	+	is	=

I'm    can't    won't

they're    she's    that's

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