

Word Work Lesson Plan and Activities

Instructional Focus Based on the Words in the Book

The Invisible Boy
By: Trudy Ludwig
Grade Level: 3 / Guided Reading Level: N

Word Work

Instructional Focus:
Contractions

Background:
Contractions are created when two words are combined to make a new word. To form a contraction, some letters from the base words are taken away and replaced with an apostrophe. Contractions are typically used in a more casual conversation or to convey a sense of familiarity.

Examples:

is	r
she's	r
he's	H
what's	N
who's	C

Materials and Preparation:

- A Copy of *The Invisible Boy*
- Markers
- Scissors
- Chart Paper
- Contraction Anchor Chart
- Base Word Cards
- Contraction Practice Page
- Optional - Word Detective Worksheet

Word Work

Step 1: Introduce the Focus of Word Work

Introduce Contractions

- Explain that contractions are made when two words are combined to make a shorter version. When the two words are combined, some of the letters are dropped and an apostrophe is added.
- Draw the students' attention to the chart paper and to the list of words. Tell students you will be combining these words into contractions.
- Start with the words "do not." Write the contraction "don't" next to "do not" on the chart paper and explain how you have taken out the letter "o" and put an apostrophe in its place to show your changes.
- Repeat the process and explanation for the words "it is" and "we will."

Contractions in the Text

Step 2: Connect Word Work to Reading

Contractions in the Text

- Tell students that *The Invisible Boy* has many examples of contractions.
- Tell students to listen carefully for the contractions as you read the story aloud. Instruct students to give you a thumbs up when they hear a contraction.
- Read page 1 of *The Invisible Boy*. Ask for a student volunteer to identify the contraction they heard on the first page. (She's)
- Read the rest of the book. When you are done reading, ask students for additional examples of contractions from the text. For each example, have the students identify the two words that the contract was made from.
- Chart student answers on the anchor chart and address any misconceptions as needed.

Some Examples of Contractions in the Text:

- she's
- he's
- what's
- doesn't
- wasn't
- you're
- we've
- he's
- we're
- let's
- haven't
- don't
- it's
- I'm
- it's

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Step by Step Lesson Plan

List of words in the book that match the instructional focus

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Word Work

Step 3: Guided Word Work Practice

Interactive Exploration

- Provide each pair of students with one set of base word cards and set of cards with contractions from *The Invisible Boy*.
- Instruct students to play the **Match Up Memory Game**. Shuffle all of the cards together and place face down. Students will take turns flipping over two cards to find a match—base words to the appropriate contraction.

Step 4: Independent Word Work Practice

Practice Page

- Give each student a copy of **Contractions Practice Page**.
- Read the directions with the class. Instruct students to circle the contraction in each sentence. Then, students will write the base words that form the contraction on the line directly to the right of the sentence.
- Tell the students to complete the practice page.
- Monitor for 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 contractions 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 contractions they find using the **Word Detective** worksheet.

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Interactive Activity

Independent Practice Page

Base Word Cards Interactive Activity

Directions: Cut each set of word cards apart.

she is	does not	we have
let us	I am	was not
is	have not	what is
you are	we are	does not
I will	it is	could not
would not	they are	who is

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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

Name: _____ Word Work Extension Activity | @BookPagez.com

Contractions Word Work Practice Page

Directions: Circle the contraction in the sentence. Write the base words that make up the contraction on the lines following the sentence.

- She's going to the store to buy some more milk. _____
- Sara doesn't want to go to the park because she is too tired. _____
- We've been to the amusement park three times before. _____
- Let's all go to the birthday party together! _____
- I'm excited to visit my best friend over spring break! _____
- Bob wasn't very happy when his sister knocked over his ice cream. _____
- "He's going to meet us at the park when he is done with work," said mom. _____
- John and Sally haven't been to school in two days because they have been sick. _____
- "What's that thing stuck to your shoe?" my sister asked. _____
- Dad told me, "You're going to be a great soccer player as long as you try your hardest!" _____

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