

Word Work Lesson Plan and Activities

Instructional Focus Based on the Words in the Book

Word Work

The Man Who Walked Between the Towers
By: Mordicaí Gerstein
Grade Level: 4 / Guided Reading Level: Q

Instructional Focus:
Irregular Past Tense Verbs

Background:
To form the regular past tense, add "-ed" to the base form. However, irregular verbs do not follow this rule.

Examples:

| Base Form | Past Tense |
|-----------|------------|
| go | went |
| run | ran |
| think | thought |
| do | did |

Materials and Preparation:

- A Copy of *The Man Who Walked Between the Towers*
- Chart Paper
- Scissors
- Regular Verb Base Form Word Cards
- Irregular Verb Base Form Word Cards
- Irregular Verb Past Tense Word Cards
- Optional - Irregular Verb Past Tense Word Cards

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Step 1:
Introduce the Focus of Word Work

Introduce Irregular Past Tense Verbs

- Tell the students that a verb is a word that shows an action or a state of being. Explain that a verb can be regular or irregular.
- Tell the students that regular verbs can be expressed in the past tense by adding "-ed" to the base form of the verb. Explain that irregular verbs do not add the "-ed" ending. Irregular verbs take different forms.
- Write the headings "Regular Verbs" and "Irregular Verbs" on the top of chart paper.
- Write "Base Form" and "Past Tense" under each heading.
- Write the word "walk" under the "Regular Verb Base Form" heading. Explain that we add "ed" to the base form to form the past tense of walk.
- Write the word "walked" under the "Regular Verb Past Tense" heading. Repeat the process for the words look/looked, dance/danced, wait/waited.
- Write the word "go" under the "Irregular Verb Base Form" heading.
- Tell students that the past form of the word "go" is "went".
- Write the word "went" under the "Irregular Verb Past Tense" heading. Repeat the process for the words have/had, think/thought/and get/got.
- Ask children to share examples of irregular verbs and write the words under the corresponding headings.

Sample Anchor Chart

| Regular Verbs | | Irregular Verbs | |
|---------------|--------|-----------------|---------|
| Base Form | Past | Base Form | Past |
| walk | walked | go | went |
| look | looked | have | had |
| dance | danced | think | thought |
| wait | waited | get | got |

Step 2:
Connect Word Work to Reading

Irregular Past Tense Verbs in the Text

- Tell the students that the book *The Man Who Walked Between the Towers* contains many examples of irregular past tense verbs.
- Instruct students that they will need to listen carefully as you read and raise their hand when they hear an example of an irregular verb in the past tense.
- Read the following example from the first page: "Once there were two towers side by side. They were each a quarter of a mile high."
- Tell students that the word "were" is an example of an irregular past tense verb. Add "were" to the Irregular Verb Past Tense column.
- Explain that the base form of "were" is "are" and add it to the Irregular Verb Base Form column.
- Read *The Man Who Walked Between the Towers*. Add additional examples to the chart.

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Step by Step Lesson Plan

Word Work

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Step 2:
Connect Word Work to Reading (continued)

Examples of Irregular Past Tense Verbs Found in the Text:

| Irregular Verb Base Form | Irregular Verb Past Tense |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| see | saw |
| is | was |
| are | were |
| come | came |
| know | knew |
| has/have | had |
| take | took |
| shoot | shot |
| do | did |
| run | ran |
| kneel | kneelt |
| hold | held |
| bring | brought |
| catch | caught |
| fall | fell |
| fly | flew |
| think | thought |

Step 3:
Guided Word Work Practice

Interactive Exploration

- Provide each student with a copy of the *Irregular Verbs Base Form Word Cards*, the *Irregular Past Tense Verbs Word Cards* and the *Irregular Verbs Sorting Mat*.
- Instruct students to use scissors to cut out the word cards.
- Tell students to spread out the word cards to locate matching pairs of irregular base form and past tense verbs.
- Tell students to place the verbs pairs in the correct column.
- Instruct students to check their work with a friend.

Step 4:
Independent Word Work Practice

Practice Page

- Distribute 1 copy of the *Irregular Past Tense Verbs practice page* to each student.
- Read the directions with the students.
- Read the example with the students.
- Instruct the students to complete the worksheet independently.
- Monitor students as they work.

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List of words in the book that match the instructional focus

Irregular Verbs Base Form Word Cards

Directions: Cut out the word cards.

| | | | |
|------|-------|-------|-------|
| see | is | take | know |
| have | think | shoot | do |
| run | kneel | come | fly |
| hold | bring | fall | catch |

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Interactive Activity

Independent Practice Page

Irregular Past Tense Verbs Word Work Practice Page

Directions: Complete the sentences with the past tense form of the verb in parentheses.

Example: (go) They went to the festival yesterday.

- (see) I _____ her brother at the restaurant last week.
- (is) There _____ a big thunderstorm on Sunday.
- (know) Stacy _____ most of the answers on last week's spelling test.
- (think) David _____ he would never learn to skateboard.
- (run) Emily _____ across the finish line to win the race.
- (come) My uncle _____ with us on the field trip to the science center last week.
- (hold) Roberto _____ the football tightly all the way into the end zone.
- (take) Last week, I _____ the bus to school.
- (catch) Kylee _____ a sore throat from her little sister.
- (have) Last night Julie _____ fun at the party.

Name: _____ Independent Word Work Practice | @BookPagez.com

Extension Activity

Word Detective: Irregular Past Tense Verbs Extension Activity

Directions:
Be a word detective!
Be on the lookout for **irregular past tense verbs** 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 |
|------|------------|------|----------|
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