

Word Work Lesson Plan and Activities

Instructional Focus Based on the Words in the Book

The Raft
By: Jim LaMarche
Grade Level: 3 / Guided Reading Level: O

Word Work

Instructional Focus:
Compound Words

Background:
Compound words are formed by putting two smaller words together to form a new word that has meaning. For example, in the sentence "The word nobody is a compound word," the word "nobody" means no person, or "body."

Examples:

afternoon	combread	bathroom
downstream	hitchhikers	anything
flashlight	sketchpad	upriver
cannonballs	outlines	everything
nobody	hairbrush	baseball

Materials and Preparation:

- A Copy of *The Raft* by Jim LaMarche
- Chart Paper
- Colored Markers
- Crayons for each student
- 4 Strings and Tape
- Sets of Word Cards (enough for each group)
- Teacher Set of Flash Cards
- Adjectives Practice Page (1 per student)
- Optional - Word Detective (1 per student)

Optional Activity to Extend Engagement

Step by Step Lesson Plan

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Step 1: Introduce the Focus of Word Work

Introduce Compound Words

- Draw the students' attention to the chart paper. Explain that these are all compound words. They are made up of two smaller words.
- Ask the students to tell what smaller words make up each compound word. Ask them to think of other compound words they know. Have them tell a partner one compound word they know.
- Ask for volunteers to share their compound words with the class. Write them on the chart paper. Clear up any misconceptions about answers that are not compound words.
- At the bottom of the chart, write these words in a column down the left side: any, after, both, fly. Tape one end of a string at the end of each word. On the right side, write these words in a column: room, wood, thing, noon. Put a piece of tape on the opposite end of the string.
- Ask a student to read the first word on the left (after). Ask for a volunteer to come up and tape the string to a word in the right-hand column that would go with the word after to make a compound word (noon). Write the compound word on the chart paper. Repeat with the other 3 pairs of words.

Sample Anchor Chart

Compound Words	
firefly	baseball
toothbrush	inside
airplane	birdhouse
eyeball	butterfly

Step 2: Connect Word Work to Reading

Compound Words in the Text

- Show the students pages 1-5 of *The Raft*. Have them look at the words as you read. Have them hold up a finger every time they hear a compound word. (When you are through reading they should be holding up 8 fingers.)
- Go back to page 5 and ask for volunteers to tell you which words are compound words. Write the correct answers on the chart paper.
- Read the story from beginning to end. Ask the students to listen for compound words. Tell them you will write down their answers after you finish the whole story.
- Read *The Raft*.

Some Examples of Compound Words in the Text:

- afternoon
- anything
- cannonballs
- combread
- indoors
- outlines
- bathroom
- flashlight
- everything
- freewood
- sketchpad
- workroom
- downstream
- upriver
- nobody
- cattails
- berthing

List of words in the book that match the instructional focus

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Step 3: Guided Word Work Practice

Interactive Exploration

- Divide students into teams of 4. Give each team a set of Word Cards.
- Hold up the first word card in the teacher set.
- Ask students to talk in their teams and find a word card that would go with your word to make a real compound word.
- Ask one person from each team to hold up the card with their answer. Ask one student with the correct answer to come and hold their card next to yours to form the compound word.
- Give a point to each team that had the correct answer. Reward the winning team(s).

Step 4: Independent Word Work Practice

Practice Page

- Give each student a copy of *Matching Stars Compound Words Practice Page*.
- 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 compound words in their own reading. Tell them to write their words on an index card and add them to the pocket chart (review the odder 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*.

Interactive Activity

Independent Practice Page

Word Cards Interactive Activity

Directions: Cut each set of word cards apart and distribute to the teams.

board	ball	hopper	house
shoe	fish	cake	fly
cow	grand	snow	goose

tree
butter
bump

Extension Activity

Word Detective: Short Vowel Extension Activity

Directions: Be on the lookout for short vowels 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 | @BookPages.com

Matching Stars Compound Words Practice Page

Directions: Read the words in the stars. Decide which 2 stars go together to make a compound word. Write your new words in the blanks. Then color the 2 stars the same color. Continue until you match all the stars to form 6 compound words.

star	bird	slide	sun
some	book	out	burn
case	fish	case	bath

Compound Words

Bonus: Use one of your compound words in a sentence.

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