

Word Work Lesson Plan and Activities

Instructional Focus Based on the Words in the Book

The Missing Mitten Mystery
By: Troy Andrews
Grade Level: 4 / Guided Reading Level: R

Word Work

Instructional Focus:
Contractions

Background:
A contraction is a short form of a word or a sound or letter. The omitted letters are usually written in smaller letters.

Examples:

couldn't	I'll
didn't	I'm
don't	I've
hadn't	it's
he'd	let's

Materials and Preparation:

- A Copy of the Trombone Story
- Chart paper
- Colored markers
- Scissors
- Pencils
- Sample Anchor Chart
- Connect Contractions to Reading
- Contractions Word Match (I)
- Contraction Practice Page (I)
- Optional - Word Detective (I)
- Optional - Extend Engagement
- Extend Engagement Activity (I)
- (see Extend Engagement in S)

Step 1: Introduce the Focus of Word Work

Introduce Contractions

- Explain that some words can be combined to make one shortened word. Any omitted letters are replaced with an apostrophe.
- Make a table with two columns and thirteen rows.
- Write "Two Words" in the top left cell and "Contractions" in the top right cell.
- Write the words "are" and "not" next to each other in the first cell under the "Two Words" heading. Explain that "are" and "not" can be combined to make one shortened word by replacing the letter "o" with an apostrophe.
- Draw a line through the letter "o".
- Write the word "aren't" in the first cell under the "Contractions" heading. Say the word and ask children to repeat the word.
- Ask children to look at the apostrophe. It replaced the letter "o".
- Write the words "did" and "not" next to each other in the second cell under the "Two Words" heading. Explain that "did" and "not" can be combined to make one shortened word by replacing the letter "o" with an apostrophe.
- Draw a line through the letter "o".
- Write the word "didn't" in the second cell under the "Contractions" heading. Say the word and ask children to repeat the word.
- Ask children to look at the apostrophe. It replaced the letter "o".
- Follow the same steps with these words: he'd, he'll, he's, I'd, I've, she'd, she'll, she's, that's, and there's.
- Ask children to share examples.

Step 2: Connect Word Work to Reading

Contractions in the Text

- Pass out **Connect Contractions to Reading** sheets and pencils.
- Tell the students the author of "**Trombone Shorty**" used contractions to add voice to his story.
- Show students **page 1** in the book. Read the page aloud to the students.
- Ask students to identify the contraction (y'all).
- Discuss how the word "y'all" adds voice to the story. You may also want to discuss the fact that "y'all" is not a standard contraction.
- Explain that you will read the autobiography to them. Their job is listen for contractions and raise their hand when they hear one.
- Stop reading when a student raises their hand.

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Step by Step Lesson Plan

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Step 2: Connect Word Work to Reading (continued)

Extend Engagement!

- Cut out the word cards from the Extend Engagement Activity.
- Place them in a pile face down in front of you.
- Each student will read two words from the Two Words cards.
- Students will see if they have the contraction. They will collect the two cards as a match.
- The student with the most matches at the end of the game wins.

Examples of Contractions Found in the Text:

- couldn't
- didn't
- don't
- he'd
- I'm
- I've
- it's
- that's
- there's
- who's/whar's
- who's
- you've
- let's

Step 3: Guided Word Work Practice

Interactive Exploration

- Give each team a **Contractions Word Match** sheet.
- Tell students to cut out the cards, mix them up, and place them face down, making four rows and four columns.
- The object of the game is to match two words with a contraction.
- Explain that each player will turn over two cards.
- If the two cards match, the player gets to keep the two cards.
- If the cards do not make a match, the player will turn the work.

List of words in the book that match the instructional focus

Optional Activity to Extend Engagement

Contractions Word Match
Interactive Activity

Directions:

- Cut out the word cards below.
- Place the cards face down making four columns and four rows.
- Turn over two cards.
- If one card has a contraction and the other card has two words that make the contraction, the player gets to keep the match.
- If the cards do not make a match, the player turns the cards over.
- The player with the most matches wins.

he'll	he will	we've	we have
she's	she is	weren't	were not
I'd	I would	what're	what are
I've	I have	what's	what is

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Interactive Activities

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Step 4: Independent Word Work Practice

Practice Page

- Pass out a **Contraction Practice Page** to each student.
- Ask students to look at the music notes. They will notice a contraction written in the bar on each note.
- Tell children to write the two words that make the contraction in the circles of each musical note.

Step 5: Reconnect and Reflect on Word Work

Group Discussion

- Bring the student's 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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Independent Practice Page

Contractions
Word Work Practice Page

Directions:

Write two words that make the contraction at the top of the note. The contraction has been done for you.

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

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 contraction.

Title	Page	Sentence

Name: _____ Word Detective Worksheet | @BookPages.com