Word Families
A Kindergarten Experience
Creating Instructional Unit Resource Guides based on Principles of Universal Design and Differentiated Instruction

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Author’s Note

Welcome to Word Families, a Kindergarten experience at Wheatfield Elementary. We are a team of teachers exploring experiences available to our students using Universal Design. This unit will focus on rhyming words. The teacher implementing this unit has been teaching Kindergarten for five years. She has background in Gifted and Talented education as well as Reading Recovery and Grade 3.

Questions can be directed to: Carolyn at 219-956-3221 or cdavidson@kv.k12.in.us.
Standards
What standards will be met through this unit?

Keeping aligned with Indiana State Standards for Language Arts, this lesson is addressing Phonemic Awareness.

K.1.7 Listen to two or three phonemes(sounds) when they are read aloud, and tell the number of sounds heard, whether they are the same or different order.
K.1.8 Listen and say the changes in spoken syllables (a word or part of a word that contains one vowel sound) and words with two or three sounds when one sound is added, substituted, omitted, moved, or repeated.
K.1.9 Blend consonant-vowel-consonant (cvc) sounds aloud to make words.
K.1.10 Say rhyming words in response to an oral prompt.
K.1.11 Listen to one-syllable words and tell the beginning or ending sounds.
K.1.12 Listen to spoken sentences and recognize individual words in the sentence; listen to words and recognize individual sounds in the words.
K.1.13 Count the number of sounds in a syllable; count the number of syllables in words.

Help!

Resources for locating state standards:

- Developing Educational Standards

- MCREL

- Indiana Learning Standards
  [http://www.doe.state.in.us/standards/](http://www.doe.state.in.us/standards/)

- ISTE – National Educational Technology Standards
  [http://www.cnets.iste.org](http://www.cnets.iste.org)
Planning Pyramid
What should students know?

Some students will know
• Associate sounds with the letters

Most students will know
• Recognize letters

All students will know
• The symbols are letters
Teacher Resources

http://www.enchantedlearning.com/rhymes.html
This site provides the teacher with many options to provide rhyming practice through the use of nursery rhymes. Lesson plans and student activities are included.

http://www.readwritethink.org/lessons/lesson_view.asp?id=21
Teachers can use this site for teaching word families through nursery rhymes. Lesson plans and activities are provided.
http://curry.edschool.virginia.edu/go/wil/rimes_and_rhymes.htm#About
This site provides downloadable rhyme-a-week lesson plans and activities with rationale for using classic nursery rhymes.
Learner Activities

**Simon S. I. O. (donjohnston.com)**
Students learn letters, sounds, and word families with voice, text and picture support. They begin matching onsets and rimes, practice spelling the word, and then reading the word with on-screen rewards for successes.

**WordMaker (donjohnston.com)**
Students manipulate letters to make words, discovering sounds and letter patterns in the process. WordMaker is based on the Four Blocks Literacy Model, developed by Dr. Patricia Cunningham.

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Assessment

This rubric assesses the basic reading skills of children. This rubric can help you assess basic phonics skills development, use of simple endings, and initial consonant sounds.

Help!

Resources for locating assessment materials:

**Rubrics, Rubric Maker**

http://teachers.teach-nology.com/web_tools/rubrics/

Rubistar:
http://rubistar.4teachers.org/index.php
## Modifications

### Planning for Academic Diversity

Text to speech and word talk.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LEARNING BARRIER</th>
<th>POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS</th>
<th>WEB LINK RESOURCES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Picture clues.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student has difficulty comprehending the material</td>
<td>Picture clues.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.kidspiration.com/">http://www.kidspiration.com/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student has difficulty mastering the vocabulary of the unit</td>
<td>Picture clues. ESL Teaching Assistant</td>
<td><a href="http://www.kidspiration.com/">http://www.kidspiration.com/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student needs the instructional material in a language other than English</td>
<td>Does not apply at grade level.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student has difficulty with handwriting (speed or accuracy)</td>
<td>Provide additional websites.</td>
<td><a href="http://www.enchantedlearning.com">http://www.enchantedlearning.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student needs additional challenge</td>
<td>Does not apply to lesson.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student has difficulty with calculating activities</td>
<td>Does not apply to age level.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student needs help with conducting research</td>
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</tbody>
</table>