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Building Spelling Skills, Grade 4



Synopsis

In Building Spelling Skills, Daily Practice, Grade 4, students will learn 18 spelling words per week (540 total). Two sentences for dictation are provided for each list. In this new edition, teaching objectives are provided for each of the 30 weeks. Spelling lists include the following: contractions, blends, vowel sounds, prefixes and suffixes, compound words, words with silent letters, homophones and easily confused spellings, consonant digraphs, time and calendar words, and multisyllabic words. The practice pages include the following: the spelling list with spaces to read, write, and spell each word, word meaning (filling in missing spelling words in sentences, crossword puzzles, synonyms/antonyms), exercises with phonetic elements, and editing for spelling. Reproducible pages include: How to Study Your List page, spelling strategies, take-home spelling lists, spelling record sheet, individual spelling record, spelling test form, spelling list form, crossword puzzle form, master word list, and a parent letter. student spelling dictionary

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (75 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

My school did away with the traditional spelling books last year and we have been creating every activity and homework piece this year. It has been a lot of work with few things being fun and often tedious. I piloted this book for three weeks with my students and they welcomed the change. They liked the varied activities and the challenges it provided. As the teacher, I like the natural progression of the lists. It fits in with my language arts curriculum with ease. It begins with simple

vowel sounds and moves to the more complex then adding higher level spelling patterns third graders need to know. I can't wait to begin my school year next year so I can use it again.

This book includes spelling lists and practice sheets for a very good spelling program. If you're like me, and your reading series does not address spelling appropriately (or at all), then you'll find this book very useful. The spelling words are very appropriate for first grade. (There's also editions for the other grades.) For example the first spelling unit is the words: a, an, and, am, and at. My class is doing very well with this program, and it's easy for me, too. Everything is provided in reproducibles.

I love this book (what else can I say?)! Each lesson has different reinforcement tools to help your child remember spelling rules. The lists are age-appropriate; and while challenging, this book has proven to be the only one I've used that has given my child a sense of success in spelling (not his strong suit to begin with). My only regret is that I didn't find this book until 3rd grade!

This book is obviously designed to be used as a "blackline master" in a classroom setting. The book assumes you will be making copies of everything to distribute; in other words, this is not a consumable workbook that you can easily use with one/your child. As far as content goes, I feel it is age-appropriate. I taught 1st grade in the public school system for 5 years and am now homeschooling my daughter (1st grade). I thought I could use this for our spelling program this year -- I liked the activities, the sentence dictation, the word lists. But like I said, this is not a consumable workbook. There is only one "test" page, way in the back/appendix of the book, meant to be copied over and over. And there are little annoyances: you can't tear out pages to use because they are on the back of the next lesson, etc. Final word: not intended for single-student use.

My son is a fifth grader and his teacher was using the sixth grade version of the same series. When I saw his words, I appreciated the fact that he was still learning phonetic elements even at an advanced level. I asked her the name of the product and I purchased the third grade level for my classroom. The students have been challenged but have had a high rate of success on their tests. We are now on week 4. I use the Spelling City website for assessments and practice in conjunction with the book activities. I especially like the dictation sentences, because listening and accuracy are important skills. This is the best spelling resource I have ever used and I have been teaching for ten years.

I am happy with the structure and content of this workbook and many of the other grade level books by this publisher; I used them in first and second grade with my son and plan to do the same with my daughter. I piece together my curriculum from lots of different sources, using this publisher as my primary source for geography, math, spelling and language. I will agree that there is some "busy work" that does not really help develop spelling skills, so we often skip those sections. I would also like a quarterly review/quiz activity to help reinforce things.

Having tried far too many spelling curriculums, my son and I finally settled on this one. Similar to Spectrum Spelling, which is also good and inexpensive, "Building Spelling Skills" is simple, straightforward, and easy to use. The spelling lists make sense, focusing on just one or two word families, sounds, etc. each week - perfect for the non-natural speller. The varied activities not only provide variety to the lessons, but help reinforce any missed words. My son no longer loathes spelling and I no longer worry about how to teach it. Bottom line, great for homeschoolers and especially the parent for whom spelling does not come naturally. The only drawback is that the series stops at grade 6. :-)

My son just turned 8 and is already a decent speller, but this is just the right amount of challenge for him. I love how clear the directions are and that it has 4 lessons a week. It really drills the spelling list in without being monotonous or boring.

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