

High Frequency Word Scavenger Hunt

Introduction: A large portion of words students must know while reading is high frequency words. These are words that do not necessarily follow phonetic rules or logic. High frequency words — or sight words — are words that students need to memorize. This activity provides a fun way for students to get some practice learning high frequency words.

Grade Level and Subject: 1st Grade Reading and P.E.

TEKS: Reading – 8E, 8G
P.E. – 1A, 1B, 3A, 7A

Materials: Several cards (made of card stock or any type of sturdy material) with high frequency words written on them, digital cameras

Resource: Use this website for a list of high frequency words:
<http://literacyconnections.com/Dolch1.html>.

Activity: Before beginning this activity, the teacher will need to make cards with several different high frequency words on them. The students should have already been practicing the words and have some knowledge of them before completing the activity. The teacher, or parent volunteer, will hide these cards in several different places on the playground.

This activity will need the services of several parent volunteers or teacher assistants with digital cameras, phone cameras, or other technological means of recording the activity.

To begin the activity, the teacher will review with the students the high frequency words that are on the cards on the playground. After reviewing the words, the teacher will assign a student or two to a parent volunteer or teacher assistant. Hopefully, there will be enough parents so that each student can have the assistance of a parent or assistant. Otherwise, the groups should be no larger than 2-3 students per parent or assistant.

The students and their assistants (cameras in hand) will go to the playground. Once the teacher gives the starting signal, the student/parent groups will run, walk, hop, skip, etc. (whichever locomotive skill they feel like performing) around the playground. They will search high and low for the cards with the high frequency words written on them. When they find one, the student will read it to the volunteer or assistant, and that person will take a picture of the student holding the card. The student/parent group will then place the card back in its original position and begin looking for another card. When the group thinks it has found all of the cards, they will go to the teacher. The teacher will check the pictures to ensure that all cards have been found. If they are missing any cards, they will go back out on the playground and search for the missing cards. The activity is over once the groups have found all of the cards.

Evaluation: The teacher will check the pictures taken by the adult of each group to ensure that the students have found each and every high frequency card.



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Updated February 2016