

Sight Words Guy

MATERIALS

FOR STUDENT:
(one per student unless otherwise noted)

- FloraCraft® Make It: Fun® Foam Balls: Two 2 1/2" and one 1 1/2" diameters
- Plastic glasses (inexpensive from a party store)
- Wiggle eyes, two 30 mm
- Toothpicks, three
- Cardstock papers, assorted colors, 2" x 5" or 2" x 6" size (for spelling words)
- Pencil
- Washable black fine line felt tip marker
- Glue stick
- Paper plate
- Zip-sealed bag (optional to hold "guy" and words)

FOR TEACHER:

- Sheet of white address labels
- Serrated knife
- Paper cutter
- Scissors
- Glue gun (for teacher only)



LANGUAGE ARTS

GRADE LEVEL

KINDERGARTEN – FIRST

COMPLETION TIME

- 30 minutes



OBJECTIVES

Students learn:

- A fun way to practice spelling their sight words
- To use fine motor skills
- To listen and follow step-by-step instructions

STANDARDS

- Use conventional spelling for words with common spelling patterns and for frequently occurring irregular words
- Know the spelling-sound correspondences for common consonant digraphs
- Recognize and read grade-appropriate irregularly spelled words
- Spell untaught words phonetically, drawing on phonemic awareness and spelling conventions

TEACHER PREPARATION

Note: Read through all the instructions first and check out the TIPS! Have a glue gun plugged in and ready to use (ideally set on low temperature) but out of student reach. This can give you immediate adhesion when you're in a hurry to help students. It is also recommended that you make one project first, before preparing the materials for any others, since knowing how the parts fit, might affect how you prepare the rest of them.

[1] To use the glue gun to connect the eyes and nose together, set the foam balls on the table and insert a toothpick in between each of them, without pushing them all the way together. Squeeze glue between each foam ball, against the toothpicks and quickly press the foam balls together so that the toothpicks don't show and the connections are secure. Repeat for all students.

[2] To make the channel in the top of the eyes to hold the word strips, use a serrated knife to cut a 1/4" deep, horizontal line, going across the top of the eyes. Check the depth by inserting a piece of cardstock into the cut channel. Repeat for all students.

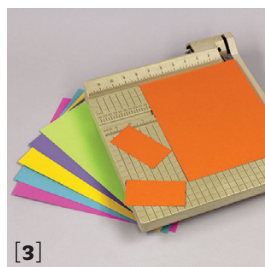
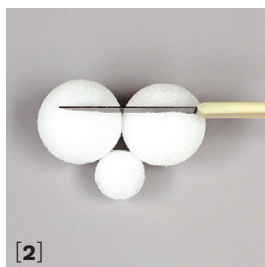
[3] Use the paper cutter to cut 2" x 5" or 2" x 6" pieces (depending on the length of the sight words) from the colored cardstock. Cut as many as needed for the words on the list. Repeat for all students.

[4] Cut apart the address labels, one per student. Put on a paper plate for each student: Foam ball unit, glasses, wiggle eyes, pencil, marker, glue stick, colored cardstock paper strips and name label. Also have a list of the sight words you want them to use, ready to give to each student.

LESSON

INTRODUCTION

- Explain to the students that there are three ways to learn to spell a word: By sight-reading it, by sounding out the letters in the word, and by memorizing it. This project makes practicing sight words a little more fun.



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INSTRUCTIONS

[1] Demonstrate and have the students make a mark with their pencil on the small foam ball, for one nostril, paying attention to the correct position near the bottom (but still visible from the front). Have them make a second mark about 3/4" away from the first. When they look correct, have them twist their pencils into the marks, going into the foam about 1/2" deep.



[2] Have the students put their glasses on by perching them on the nose-ball and touching the eye-balls. Demonstrate how to wipe the edge of the back of one wiggle eye on the glue stick to catch a lump of glue and then press the wiggle eye onto the foam eye-ball (going through the open glasses). Repeat for the other wiggle eye. Then, have the students attach their wiggle eyes.



[3] Hand out the sight word sheets and have the students copy them from their paper onto their colored cardstock strips. (Note: To be certain of the students' spelling accuracy, you can have them write their words in pencil first, and you (or another classmate) can check them. Then, they can trace their pencil lines with the marker.)



[4] Have the students write their name on the label. Demonstrate and have them apply glue stick to the bottom of a foam eyeball and press the label onto it. When they are dry, students can keep their "guys" and their sight words in zip-sealed bags.



MODIFICATIONS

To simplify project:

- Have the sight words already printed on the cardstock and cut into strips.
- Hot glue the wiggle eyes when gluing together the foam balls and skip the glasses.

To expand project:

- Add more details to the head such as chenille stem eyebrows and yarn hair behind the word channel.
- Make an animal (like a dog) by adding another similar 3-foam ball unit, underneath, making cheeks/jowls and mouth/tongue.

For multiple ages:

- Younger and older students can work side-by-side, with older students gluing their foam balls together with tacky glue and toothpicks.
- Older students can come up with other words to be memorized, or facts of information to be studied.

ADDITIONAL IDEAS

- Change the cardstock words with each new group of sight words. Possibly, have any challenger-words printed on a particular color of paper.
- Use the "guy" for math and other memorization.
- Put six (or so) in a student spelling center.
- Place them on student desks with their names in them, during open house or when guests visit.
- Make a giant information "guy" for the classroom by using two 8" foam balls for eyes, 6" foam ball for nose, jumbo wiggle eyes (now available), jumbo plastic glasses (or glasses cut from poster board) and large marker to make nostrils. School notices and information can go into his head for the students to read when they enter the room.
- These also make a good project to take home and practice spelling there.



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TIPS

- Inexpensive plastic glasses (in party packs) are available in party stores or on line. Sunglasses work too, by having an adult simply pop out the lenses.
- Most glasses will fit securely but if yours do not, indent the sides of the foam on the temple to slide them on, or hot glue them at the temple or top of nose to hold.
- Have extras of everything.
- Use a glue gun to attach any wiggle eyes that won't stay.
- Use wet wipes for gluey fingers.

REFERENCES

Spectrum Sight Words by Carson-Dellosa Publishing
Dictionary of Spelling by Marvin Terban
Sight Word Readers Box Set (125 little books) by Scholastic
The Everything Kids' Spelling Book by Shelley Galloway Sabga, M.A.Ed.