

## **Sight Word Games**

### **Hide-and-Seek Sight Words.**

Hide ten word cards. Let your child find them and then read them to you.

Try it this way too :

Select a handful of sight words at random, then find the same words around the house-for example, on packages of food or in newspaper headlines.

### **Jump On It!**

Copy sight words on index cards (one word per card). Make a second set of the same words. Scatter one set face up on the floor, leaving about a foot between each card. Place the other set in a stack facedown. Turn over the first card in the stack. Have the child read the word (offer help as needed) and then jump on the corresponding card on the floor. Turn over the next card and have your child read it and jump to that word. Continue until the child has jumped on all of the words. Mix up the cards and play again.

### **Rainbow Letters**

Turn sight words into rainbows! Ask your child to copy one of his/her difficult sight words on paper in big letters. Using different-colored crayons, your child can then trace around the word again and again, reading the word each time.

### **Read My Back**

“Write” a sight word on your child’s back. Can your child guess the word? Trade places-let your child trace a word from the list on your back. Continue taking turns tracing and guessing sight words.

### **Sing a Song of Sight Words**

Practice sight words by singing them to a familiar tune or making up your own. If you run out of words before you get to the end of the song, just start at the top of the list again. Some songs to try include “Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star” and “Row, Row, Row Your Boat”.

### **On the Run**

The next time you’re going somewhere with your child, play a sight word game. It’s easy-just have your child find as many sight words as he or she can on billboards, signs, and so on. If you don’t have a sight word list with you, invite your child to read the “little” words. You can play this game in a car, on a walk, even in line at the grocery store.

### **Spill a Sight Word**

Copy sight words onto small cards. (You can cut index cards in quarters or cut sturdy paper into pieces.) Place the word cards in an empty container, such as a tall plastic tumbler or an empty tennis ball can. Invite your child to shake the container, spill out the words, and read the ones that fall face up. Give each word your child reads a score that is equal to the number of letters in the word. Record the total, then place the remaining words back in the can and shake and spill again. Add the total to the first score. Play until your child has spilled and read all of the words.

### **I’m Thinking of ....**

Play a game of “I’m Thinking of ...” One player starts by giving a clue about one of the sight words - for example, “I’m thinking of a word that starts like goat and has five letters.” The other player looks at the list and tries to identify the word (green).

### **Which Word Wins?**

Sit with your child and look at a newspaper to see just how often sight words pop up in print. Ask your child to choose a sight word from the list that your child needs extra practice on. Using a newspaper or magazine article, look for the word together. Highlight and count the word each time it appears. Try the same things with a second sight word. Which word appears more often?

### **In The Cupboard**

Open a cupboard and take turns with your child, finding and reading sight words. Try the ones on the list your child knows and then include other sight words your child is learning. Keep going until you run out of words, time, or things in the cupboard.

### **Skip Count Words**

Make a list of the sight words. Start with the first word on the list, Say it, skip the next, read the next, and so on. Repeat the activity, this time starting with the second word on the list.

### **What's the Word Value?**

Give each letter in the alphabet a number from 1 to 26. Guess which sight word on the list will be worth the most points. Find Out! Figure out the value of each sight word.

(is  $i = 9$   $s = 20$  is = 29)

### **Squirt and Spell**

Give your child a squirt of shaving cream on a baking sheet. Let your child use his hands to spread out the shaving cream over the surface. Give your child a word to write in the shaving cream. Check the word for accuracy and then have them either correct it or wipe it away to get ready for a new word.

### **Sight Word Soup**

Write sight words on large noodles. (Rigatoni works best.) Use brightly colored permanent markers. Fill a pot with the noodles. Provide a plastic ladle and some bowls. Invite your child to visit the soup pot and scoop out a bowl of words for each family member. Let your child read the words on their noodles aloud and make a list to reinforce spelling.

### **Eggs in a Basket**

Cut apart sight words letter by letter and place the letters for each word in a plastic egg. Do this for about a dozen eggs. Place the eggs and a list of the sight words in a basket or a bowl. Let the child take an egg out and "crack" it open. Have her arrange the letters to spell a word. Have her check the spelling using the list provided. For a special surprise, fill one egg with a treat such as a sticker.

### **Shake, Read, and Write**

Using an empty egg carton, write a sight word in the bottom of each section in the egg carton and number from 1 to 12. Add a dried bean to the carton, close the top and you're ready to play. Shake the carton, then open it and read the word in the section that the dried bean landed in. Have your child write the word and number for that word on the record sheet. Shake again and read the new word, recording it and the score. Add the two numbers together. Continue until the child reaches a score of 50. Play again and compare the number of words it took to get to 50. Was it more or less the second time?