


"Word Of THE Week" - Year 3+

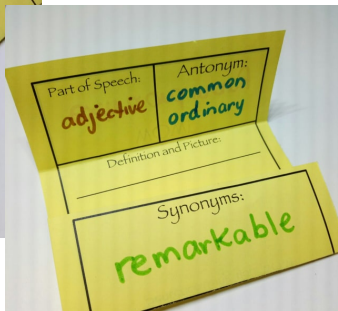
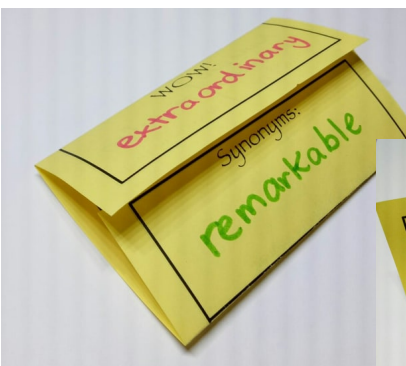
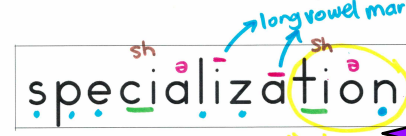
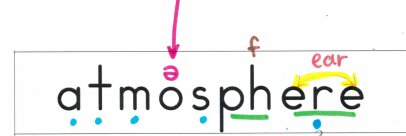
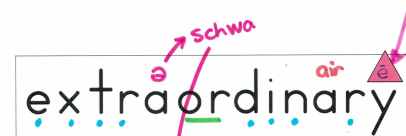
As a result of a question in the Teacher's Lounge, I'm sharing a "Word of the Week" activity I do with my tutoring students. This one is suitable for kids in Year 3+. (I have a similar one for Junior Primary kids. See the 'Documents' section of the Tutoring Group on the Reading Simplified Academy.)

The idea is to give your child a tricky word to decode. I deliberately give them quite tricky words so the child would **HAVE** to struggle with it and use all their "detective skills" to work it out!

I put the laminated word strip on my 'Word of the Week' board but I also had a paper copy for them, which we could mark up and then glue into their work book. I used words like: 

biodegradable, photography, extraordinary, atmosphere, sensational, etc from a resource by "[Clever Classroom](#)" on TPT (Teachers Pay Teachers).

(I use easier word for kids who could only decode CVC words! Words like picnic, lunch, shrink etc.)



Sometimes I also got them to fill out the mini worksheet in this resource. There are PLENTY of similar ones out there! Mine is 4 to a page, but there are lots of full page sheets on TPT - it totally depends on how much time you want to spend on the activity!

I printed the words onto paper (approx 18 per page) to give to my student.

I would get the child to help me "mark up" their word with what I call 'dots and dashes'. We would put a dot under any letter that said the sound we were expecting. So in "ship" for example, we would dot the /i/ and the /p/. We would put a 'dash' under any 'teams', such as /sh/, or /ea/, or other vowel teams. If a vowel made a long sound we would add the 'long vowel' mark (macron) above it, & if a letter made a sound that wasn't its usual 'alphabet sound' we would write it above the letter. For example, in 'dance' we would 'dot' the d, a, & n, put a dash under the /ce/ and write /s/ above the 'ce'. We would circle prefixes and suffixes. It's amazing how after a few tries they would cotton on to the technique and begin to automatically recognise "tion" as "shun" on words!! I used this one "word of the week" to teach as many 'mini-lessons' as I could!!!!

Here's some examples of how I 'mark up' a word with a child. I try to get them to do as much work as possible but sometimes I have to tell them, "Oh that letter says an 'ayyy' sound in this word." etc. Before I did Reading Simplified I was searching for ways to help kids and I saw another person use similar marks to use when 'decomposing' words and I've adopted some of them and made up my own. I also use the 'upside down' e to mark schwa sounds.

I made up a 'name' for letters that don't say the sound we expect, such as the letter /y/. I called them "**Party Hat**" letters and told kids that letter was sick of making their own sounds so they would 'dress up' as another sound. I would draw a "Party Hat" over a letter - (and sometimes even draw the elastic around the letter's "chin") and then write the sound that letter was now making inside the triangle. So in 'father', the letter /a/ says 'arrrr' so I would draw a triangle over the /a/ and then write 'ar' inside it. In the word 'sky', the letter /y/ says 'igh' so I would draw

FINALLY... print the following pages back to back, cut and fold. Help the child think of a suitable synonym or consult "Mr Google"! The rest is self explanatory. :)

Feel free to get in touch for any clarification. Mim

Part of Speech:	Antonym:
Definition and Picture: _____	
Sentence using your WOW!	

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!WOW

Glue this side down.

:sfhuoufS

!WOW

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