

Introduce High Frequency Words

Beginning Reading Routines

Purpose: Introduce high frequency words to students.

Research Basis: High frequency words are the most common words in printed English. About 100 words make up 50 percent of most English text. Many of these words are phonetically irregular, so students must learn to recognize them on sight without needing to sound them out. Many high frequency words are abstract, and English learners may need help understanding their meanings. The following routine encourages students to look carefully at new high frequency words as they begin to commit them to memory; it also encourages students to explore the words' meanings.

1. **Display the word.** Display the word on the board or whiteboard and have students look at it carefully.
2. **Pronounce the word.**
3. **Use the word.** Pronounce the word in a sentence, and explain what it means.
Example: *The moon is very far from the earth. Far means a long way away.*
4. **Have students say the word aloud.**
5. **Have students spell the word chorally.**
6. **Have students say the word again.**
7. **Use the word in sentences.** Encourage students to make up sentences and to have a discussion using the word.

Application

- Use **Reach into Phonics** for instruction in High Frequency Words.

More Beginning Reading Routines

For these routines, see the Teacher's Edition for **Reach into Phonics**

- Phonological Awareness
- Introduce a Sound/Spelling
- Vowel First Blending
- Continuous Blending
- Reading Decodable Text

