

BUZZ word

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BUZZ word JUNIOR

The Games that Fuzz your Memory
and Buzz your Brain and
Teach Synonyms, Homographs, Compound Words and Idioms

Lesson Plans

Recommended Grade Levels: Buzzword-5th grade and up

Buzzword Jr.-2nd grade and up

Pick the version of the game for your grade level and modify as necessary to fit the skills and abilities of your students.

To learn more about **Buzzword** and **Buzzword Junior**,
visit www.patchproducts.com or call 1-800-524-4263

Subjects Enhanced by Play: Language arts, reading for meaning, creative writing

Applicable Concepts, Skills, and Strategies: Identifying and interpreting metaphorical language, vocabulary development, drawing conclusions, cooperative teamwork, deductive reasoning

Objectives: Students will identify idioms, compound words and homographs, using them in oral and written forms, and appreciate the value of metaphorical language in their own speech and writing.

Components:

- Classroom lessons
- Idiom list
- Bibliography

Materials Needed:

- Buzzword or Buzzword Junior game
- Drawing paper and art supplies
- Index cards

Warm-up:

Familiarize the students with the basic concept of the game with this short activity. Select several word cards from the Buzzword Junior game. Play the game with the entire class acting as a team, guessing the words as you read the clues. If desired, you may continue to play, continuing to read the clues, but dividing the class into two groups and tabulating scores on the board.

Activities:

1. Buzzword Clue Categories

Play this version of Buzzword. Read the clues and ask students to call out answers. Write the answers on the board.

Buzzword: back

- | | |
|---|------------------------------|
| 1. knows everything we do | eyes on the back of her head |
| 2. opposite of way you came | backtrack |
| 3. singers of <u>I Want it That Way</u> | Backstreet Boys |
| 4. always telling me what to do | backseat driver |
| 5. decide not to do it | back out |
| 6. time machine movie of the 80's | <u>Back to the Future</u> |
| 7. wilderness in Australia | outback |
| 8. he throws the football | quarterback |
| 9. put the car into reverse | back up |
| 10. book bag | backpack |
| 11. doing 2 things one after another | back-to-back |
| 12. construction machine that digs | backhoe |

Ask students to identify the buzzword answers in each of these categories:

- Popular culture category (songs, movies) (3,6)
- compound words (2, 3, 4, 7, 10, 12)
- hyphenated compound word (11)
- phrase (1, 4, 5, 9)
- idiom (1, 4, 11)
- titles (6)

Review the concepts of previous categorization activity as needed, based on grade level and student knowledge with the following information and activities.

2. Underlining Words in Text

Discuss to introduce the rules about when to underline. Titles and other words that need to be set apart from the words around them are underlined or put into italics if using a keyboard. Pass out several Buzzword cards and ask students to give examples of underlined or italicized words. Challenge them to find other examples for a homework assignment.

3. Compound Words

Compound words are two words joined together to form a new word. A good self-checking activity to practice recognizing compound words for elementary students is on Jan Brett's website:

<http://www.janbrett.com/piggybacks/compound.htm>

Play this cooperative game to reinforce knowledge of compound words:

Buzzword Compound Train

Build a Buzzword Train in small groups or as a transition time mind-jogger. Start with a compound word from one of the Buzzword cards. See how long you build the compound word train, finding a new compound word that uses one of the words in the previous compound word for the next compound car. Write the words on index cards and line them up on chalk tray as they are created, or write them on the board.

Ex: backpack—backyard—yardstick--stickball—baseball—baseline...

You can open it up to words that aren't necessarily connected as one compound word, but do belong together.

Ex: baseline—line dance—square dance—square root—root beer...

4. Using Hyphens in Compound Words

Explain to students that occasionally a hyphen is placed between two words that are being combined as a compound word. This occurs when there is a small word in the middle (back-to-back), when two words together act as an adjective (one-way street), in compound numbers (forty-two), between a prefix and a capitalized word (pre-Civil War, anti-American), and between some root words and prefixes (ex-boss, self-assured, all-inclusive) or suffixes (president-elect.)

5. Multiple Meanings - Homographs

Ask for sentences using the word *fast*. Note the meaning of the word in each sentence and prompt until you get all of the following meanings: speedy, refrain from eating, tight. Ask the class, "How can one word have so many meanings?" Note that many Buzzword cards use homographs, or multiple meanings of the buzzword. Ex: cold as temperature and virus. Note that homographs differ from synonyms in that homographs are one word with two meanings and synonyms are two words with one meaning.

Homework or class assignment: Ask students to write at least two different meanings for the homographs on the worksheet at the end of these lesson ideas and to pick three of them to write six sentences, using both meanings of each of the three words.

For a fun mixer, try this activity: Write Buzzword clues that illustrate two multiple meanings on individual index cards, enough for the entire class. You'll need an even number of participants, so join in if you need to even up the total. Shuffle and deal the index cards out, one per student. The object is for each student to identify a word or phrase that matches the meaning on their card, then locate another student with a card for the same word or phrase.

6. Idioms

An idiom is a phrase with a meaning that is different from the meanings of the words in the phrase. Ex: let the cat out of the bag (reveal a secret), raining cats and dogs (raining hard), get cold feet (get nervous about).

Have some fun with idioms. Assign an idiom from the list at the end of this lesson to illustrate as it is written, then use in a sentence as it is meant. Ex: cat got your tongue—drawing of a cat pulling on person's tongue. *The old woman asked, "What's the matter? Cat got your tongue?"* Display illustrations for review of idioms.

7. Categorization of Clues

Practice the ways that Buzzword stretches how we think about words for a penmanship exercise. Pass out game cards, one per student. Ask students to pick the side of the card that they prefer. On a sheet of paper, write the buzzword at the top of the page. Write the red words or phrases from the card, which are the answers to each clue, on separate lines below. Challenge students to identify when the phrase (or the clue) is an idiom, when there are homographs in the clue and answer, when the answer is part of a compound word; when it is a reference to a person, book, song, place or other reference to popular culture, and write the type of clue and/or answer in the margin.

8. Now play Buzzword or Buzzword Junior just as the directions suggest. Divide the students into teams. If your students need more structure, make it an all-class game with you as the reader for all teams.

Bibliography

Here are some titles that will augment your study of word meanings.

Amelia Bedelia (and all the sequels) by Peggy Parish, published by Scholastic, 1969.

Butterflies in My Stomach and Other School Hazards by Serge Bloch, published by Sterling, 2008.

Eight Ate: A Feast of Homonym Riddles by Marvin Terban, published by Sandpiper, 2007.

In a Pickle and Other Funny Idioms by Marvin Terban, published by Sandpiper, 2007.

It Figures! Fun Figures of Speech by Marvin Terban, published by Sandpiper, 1993
The King Who Rained by Fred Gwynne, published by Aladdin, 2006.

Monkey Business: Fun with Idioms by Laura Hambleton and Sedat Turhan, published by Milet Publishing, 2007.

My Teacher Likes to Say by Denise Brennan-Nelson, published by Sleeping Bear Press, 2004.

Parts (More Parts, Even More Parts) by Tedd Arnold, published by Puffin, 2000 (2003, 2007).

Punching the Clock: Funny Action Idioms by Marvin Terban, published by Sandpiper, 1990.

Scholastic Dictionary of Idioms by Marvin Terban, published by Scholastic Reference, 2006.

Scholastic Dictionary of Synonyms, Antonyms, and Homonyms published by Scholastic Reference, 2001.

Super Silly Sayings that are Over Your Head: A Children's Illustrated Book of Idioms by Catherine S. Snodgrass, published by Starfish Specialty Press, 2004.

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Idioms

Hit the hay
Wet behind the ears
Bed of roses
Heart of gold
Apple of your eye
Dead on your feet
On top of the world
In a pickle
Bull in a china shop
Feeling blue
In the doghouse
In one ear and out the other
Rock the boat
Make waves
That's a piece of cake
Give me a hand
By the skin of your teeth
See the light
Head in the clouds
Under the weather
Jump the gun
Piece of cake
Crash a party
Break a leg
Have an axe to grind
You're pulling my leg
All ears
Written all over your face
Pass the buck
Horse of a different color
Get cold feet
Elbow grease
Blow your top
At the end of your rope
Hold down the fort
Ants in your pants
A tall glass of water
Easy as pie
Hit the ceiling
On your high horse
Get itchy feet
Pulling my leg
Down in the dumps
On the right track
A cold shoulder
Talk a mile a minute
Money burning a hole in your pocket
Barking up the wrong tree
The way the cookie crumbles
Spill the beans
Cry your eyes out
Going nuts
Walk on eggshells
Pull your own weight
Out on a limb
Walking on thin ice
Cost an arm and a leg
In hot water
See eye-to-eye
Catch a cold
You can say that again
Fall hook, line and sinker
Open a can of worms
Under the weather
Back to the drawing board
Grab the bull by its horns
Stuffed to the gills
Out of the frying pan and into the fire
Read between the lines
Have a bone to pick
Eagle eyes
On pins and needles
Toot your own horn
Lay down the law
Feel like a million
Just what the doctor ordered
Hold your horses
Bury the hatchet

Assignment to accompany activity #5.

Name _____

Homographs - Words with More than One Meaning

Write at least two definitions for each word below. Circle two of the words and use them in sentences on the back of this sheet—one sentence for each meaning. You will have six or more sentences.

box _____

yard _____

stick _____

light _____

grain _____

deck _____

jam _____

pound _____

boot _____

kid _____

well _____

rock _____

Answer Key
Homographs - Words with More than One Meaning

Write at least two definitions for each word below. Circle two of the words and use them in sentences on the back of this sheet—one sentence for each meaning. You will have six or more sentences.

box (fight with gloves and container)

yard (measurement and outside area)

stick (piece of wood, to attach and to continue)

light (not heavy and brightness)

grain (stripes in wood and seed of a cereal plant)

deck (set of cards, wood patio and floor of ship)

jam (push into, fruit spread, and block radio signals)

pound (weight, hit over & over and cage for stray dogs)

boot (winter footwear, starting a computer and kick out)

kid (young person, goat, and to tease)

well (source of water and in a good way)

rock (moving back and forth or a stone)