High Frequency Words

High-frequency words are the words that appear most often in printed materials. Students are encouraged to recognize these words by sight, without having to “sound them out.”

Learning to recognize high-frequency words by sight is critical to developing fluency in reading. Students should be able to read these words individually and in sentences and stories.

Automatic recognition of high frequency words provides an essential starting point for your child becoming a confident reader. It is important to note that

- 12 high frequency words make up 25% of words we read and write.
- 100 high frequency words make up 50% of words we read and write.
- about 300 high frequency words account for 75% of words we read and write.

Seven Simple Tips to Help Your Child Learn High-Frequency Words

1. Write high-frequency words on index cards. Click on the grade levels below for printable word cards.
   a. PreK word cards
   b. Kindergarten cards
   c. First Grade cards
   d. Second Grade cards
   e. Third Grade cards

2. Help your child create sentences with the index cards. (ex. Look at me. I like red.)

3. Have your child say or write sentences using each word.

4. Have your child write the words in shaving cream, play dough, sand, or sugar.

5. Add movement when reading or spelling the words. For example, if the word is look, your child says look three times while jumping, clapping, stomping, or snapping fingers.

6. Read a story to your child. After reading, have him/her find the high frequency words on each page.

7. Have your child cut letters from magazines, ads, or newspaper to spell each word.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PreK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>away</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>big</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>blue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>can</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>come</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>down</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>find</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>funny</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>go</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>help</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>here</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
all  like  there
am  must  they
are  new  this
at  no  too
be  now  under
black  on  want
brown  our  was
but  out  well
came  please  went
did  pretty  what
do  ran  white
eat  ride  who
four  saw  with
good  say  yes
get  she  have
have  so  into
he  soon  that
into  soon  will
Kindergarten
after
again
an
any
as
ask
by
could
every
fly
from
give
going
had
has
her
him
his
how
just
know
let
live
may
of
old
once
open
over
put
round
some
stop
take
thank
them
walk
were
when
always  found  tell
around  gave  their
because  goes  these
been  green  these
before  its  those
best  made  upon
both  many  us
buy  off  use
call  or  very
cold  pull  wash
does  read  which
don’t  right  why
fast  sing  wish
first  sit  work
five  sleep  would

your
Third Grade

about  
grow  
only

better  
hold  
own

bring  
hot  
pick

carry  
hurt  
seven

clean  
if  
shall

cut  
keep  
show

done  
kind  
six

draw  
lack  
small

drink  
light  
start

eight  
long  
ten

fall  
much  
today

far  
myself  
together

full  
never  
try

got  
nine  
warm