

# High-Frequency Words

## ("Word Card" Words)

Dear Parents,

The two major reading goals for all students in Grade 1 are these:

1. To have them become fluent readers who comprehend well
2. To help them develop the love of reading

Fluent readers read smoothly, without hesitation, and with good comprehension (understanding). As students develop fluency, they enjoy reading, tend to read more, and most often get "hooked."

Fluent readers recognize most words quickly. That allows them to focus on the meaning of the text. About 300 words, known as high-frequency words, account for 65% of all words read by adults. It is crucial that at least the first 100 most frequent words be established in Grade 1.

Each week, I will send home new high-frequency words. Students need to learn to recognize these words effortlessly as they read. The best way to help your child learn to recognize them is through lots of reading and writing. I am including a "High-Frequency Word Chart" and some suggested games to help make homework time enjoyable.

For the month of November, I will be sending home pre-made games that we will make during our guided reading time. Please use these games as an example of what you can do with the rest of the high-frequency words!

Miigwetch!

Kristy Love

# Suggested Word Games...

## Concentration (Memory)



Print two sets of high-frequency words on recipe cards. It is best to use only a maximum of 10 cards per game. Arrange the cards in rows. Parent and child take turns turning over two cards at a time to find two matching words. The person who finds a matched set gets another turn. Unmatched cards are placed face down in their original place. Play continues until all cards have been matched.

## Bingo



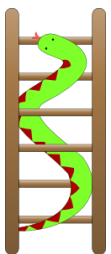
Draw three lines on a piece of paper to make six boxes. Print a high-frequency word in each box. The caller reads a word from the recipe card. The child looks for it on their bingo card. Show the child the word after they have checked their game card, to confirm that their word matches. The child places the marker on the word. Play continues until all words are covered. It is a lot of fun to use cherrios, chocolate chips, or mini marshmallows for markers! Players eat their markers when they get a full card.

## Fishing



Attach a paper clip to each high-frequency word recipe card. Make a fishing rod with string tied to a wooden spoon, ruler, or stick. Fasten a magnet to the end of the string. Take turns fishing for words. When the child reads the word correctly, they keep their catch. Tell them the unknown word and put it back in the river for another turn.

## Snakes and Ladders



Using a Snakes and Ladders game board and the high-frequency word recipe cards, a player draws a word card. The player reads the word, studies it, and then turns the card so that only the other players can see it. The player then spells the word and the other players let him/her know if they spelled it correctly. If the word is spelled correctly, the player moves their game piece the same number of spaces that there are letter in that word.

# Have fun!