

# Word Work Lesson Plan and Activities

Instructional Focus Based on the Words in the Book

**Word Work**  
**Five Busy Elves**  
 By: Patricia Hegarty  
 Grade Level: 1 / Guided Reading Level: 1

**Instructional Focus:**  
 Rhyming Word Families

**Background:**  
 Rhyming word families are groups of words that have the same ending sound. They can be used to teach students to recognize and use rhyming words.

**Examples:**

ack	
sack	
back	
tack	
track	

- Materials and Preparation:**
- A Copy of Five Busy Elves
  - Anchor Chart
  - Scissors (optional)
  - Sorting Cards (1 set)
  - Sorting Mat (1 per student)
  - Bingo Boards (1 per student)
  - Class set of bingo boards
  - Santa Rhymes Practice Page
  - Optional - Word Detective
  - Optional - Lined Paper

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**Step 1: Introduce the Focus of Word Work**

**Introduce Rhyming Word Families**

- Explain to the students that today you are going to focus on rhyming word families.
- Word families share the same ending sound just like real families share similar traits.
- Explain that they will be working with only a few word families, including: - ear - ack - ing - ong
- Show students the Anchor Chart and introduce the word endings.
- Go over each of the word family columns and read aloud together.
- Ask for student volunteers to find what is similar about each group of words. (Sample answers: All of the words in each column rhyme, all of the word endings begin with a vowel.)
- Ask the students to think of other words that match each rhyming word family.
- Allow students to turn and talk with a partner to brainstorm words.
- Record words that follow the pattern on the chart paper.

**Sample Anchor Chart**

- ack	- ear	- ong	- ing
back	fear	long	thing
tack	dear	song	sing
pack	near	song	bring

**Step 2: Connect Word Work to Reading**

**Rhyming Word Families in the Text**

- Explain to the students that *Five Busy Elves* has a lot of rhyming words that can easily fit into word families.
- Show students the first two pages of the book. Read the pages aloud.
- Ask students to identify the rhyming words on the pages. (near, year)
- Tell the students that you are going to read the book once from beginning to end. Tell them to be listening for words that follow the pattern. Remind them to be polite and not to interrupt you while you read.
- Read *Five Busy Elves*

**Extend Engagement Activity**

- Give students a piece of lined paper.
- Number the pages 1-20.
- Tell students that they are going to play a game called "Rhyme Hunt".
- The object of the game is to write as many words as they can that fit the pattern in a certain amount of time.
- Tell the students not to begin until you give the signal.
- Write the word family -at on the board.
- Tell them they will have one minute.
- After the minute is up, call "Time".
- Have the students exchange their paper with a partner.
- The students compare each other's words.

**Examples of Rhyming Word Families Found in the Text:**

• near / year	• bring / something
• socks / stacks	• fun / begun
• be / tree	• care / bear
• baking / making	• night / write
• do / too	• day / away
	• long / song

Step by Step Lesson Plan

Optional Activity to Extend Engagement

List of words in the book that match the instructional focus

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**Step 3: Guided Word Work Practice**

**Interactive Exploration**

- Provide each student with a set of sorting cards (allow students to cut apart the cards or provide them with pre-cut cards) and sorting mat.
- Review the words.
- Sort according to rhyme family.
- Provide each student with a copy of the *Word Bingo* game mat.
- Tell the students to select 8 words from their sorting mats to copy onto the bingo sheet.
- Model how to do this.
- Monitor students as they create their game board.
- Model how to play *Word Bingo* (refer to attached resources for directions).
- Upon completing the game, ask students to place their sorting cards into a resealable bag for later use or send the words home.

**Step 4: Independent Word Work Practice**

**Practice Page**

- Give each student a copy of the *Santa Rhymes Practice Page*.
- Read the directions with the class.
- Tell the students to complete the practice page.
- Monitor students while they work.

**Step 5: Reconnect and Reflect on Word Work**

**Group Discussion**

- Bring the students back together.
- Ask students to explain what they learned about words based on the work they completed.
- Invite students to turn and talk with a partner about their word work.
- Invite 2-3 students to share what they learned with the group.

**Step 6: Extend Word Work (optional)**

**Extension Activity**

- Ask students to be on the lookout for rhyming word families in their own reading. Tell them to write their words on a sticky note and add them to the anchor chart (review the added sticky notes with the class later in the day or before moving on to the next word work lesson).
- Alternatively, students can keep track of the words using the *Word Detective worksheet*.

Interactive Activity

**Five Busy Elves Sorting Mat**  
 Interactive Activity

**Directions:** Place each of your sorting cards into the correct column on the sorting mat below.

-ear	-ack	-ing
-ong	-un	-ay

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Guided Word Work Practice | ©BookPages.com

Independent Practice Page

**Santa Rhymes**  
 Word Work Practice Page

**Directions:** Write three words on Santa's hat. Write three words that rhyme with the word on the hat. Underline the word family.


Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Independent Word Work Practice | ©BookPages.com

Extension Activity

**Word Detective: Rhyming Word Families**  
 Extension Activity

**Directions:**  
 Be a word detective!  
 Be on the lookout for rhyming word families while you read. Write the word that you find along with the title of the book where you found the word, the page, and the sentence with the word or phrase.

Word	Book Title	Page	Sentence

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