

WORD WORK LESSON PLAN AND ACTIVITIES

Instructional Focus Based on the Words in the Book

We Are Water Protectors
By: Carole Lindstrom

Word Work

Instructional Focus:
Spelling and reading words with r-control

Background:
"Bossy R" words happen when the letter R comes right after a vowel (like A, E, I, O, or U). The R changes how the vowel sounds. Here are the five main types of "bossy R":
AR (like in car or star); The R makes the A say /ar/.
ER (like in her or fern); The R changes the E to sound like /er/.
IR (like in bird or stir); The R makes the I sound like /ir/.
OR (like in corn or storm); The R makes the O say /or/.
UR (like in turn or hurt); The R changes the U to sound like /ur/.

The /er/ sound in ER, IR, and UR is often called "bossy" because it tells the vowel unusual rules. Learning these five combined words better!

Examples:

car	her
turn	market
popcorn	turtle

Materials and Preparation:

- A Copy of *We Are Water Protectors*
- Chart paper for anchor chart
- Markers
- Chart Paper and Markers
- Bossy R cards (1 set for each pair)
- Bossy R Recording Sheet (1 per pair)
- Bossy R Word Work Practice Page
- Optional - Word Detective Extension
- Optional - Bossy R Word Hunt

Step by Step Lesson Plan

We Are Water Protectors
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Grade Level: 3 / Guided Reading Level: O

Word Work

Step 2: Connect Word Work to Reading

Bossy R Spelling Patterns in the Text
Some words that have bossy R spelling patterns found in the text:

• are	• our	• wears	• waterfalls
• water	• river's	• burns	• reminds
• protectors	• everything	• courage	• oncology
• first	• forehead	• together	• before
• nourished	• far	• four	• stewards

Step 3: Guided Word Work Practice

Interactive Exploration (Card Sort)

- Divide students into pairs.
- Provide each pair with a set of Bossy R cards (cut the cards in advance) and a recording sheet.
- Show students how to flip over a card and fill-in the blank space with a Bossy R pattern (ar, er, ir, or, or, ur).
- Tell students that they must look at the blank space and decide what bossy R spelling pattern it is missing in order to make it into a real word.
- Show students how to record their bossy R word on the recording sheet, where they must sort each word by sound, NOT by spelling pattern.
- Explain that this activity works best if you talk with your partner and say each idea out loud.
- As a pair, their task is to solve and record all of their bossy R word cards correctly.
- Set a timer for the activity (15 - 20 minutes).
- Visit each pair as they work. Discuss the correct answers at the end of the activity with the whole group.
- NOTE:** Students may come up with a bossy R word that is not listed on the answer key. If their bossy R creates a real word, it counts as being correct. Include this in your discussion with the group, and allow students to share the variety of bossy R words that they came up with (e.g. st_ _ can become stir or star, f_ _ _ can become far, fir, or fur, etc.).

Step 4: Independent Word Work Practice

Practice Page

- Give each student a copy of Bossy R Word Work practice page.
- Read the directions with the class.
- Tell the students to complete the practice page.
- Monitor students while they work.

Word Work Lesson Plan | ©BookPagez.com

List of words in the book that match the instructional focus

Interactive Activity

Independent Practice Pages

Bossy R Word Cards

st
f
h
p
f
t
c

Bossy R Recording Sheet

	/ar/	/er/	/or/

Guided Word Work Practice | ©BookPagez.com

Answer Key for Bossy R Word Work Practice Page

Bossy R Word Work Practice Page

Bossy R Poem Challenge: Fill in the Blanks!
Directions: Fill in the poem below with the bossy R spelling patterns that are missing. Use context clues from the story to help you fill each blank space.

Under the st_ _ _ , the night grows calm.
The ch_ _ _ ping crickets sing a psalm.
A gentle breeze st_ _ _ s the tall green f_ _ ns.
While the distant campfire brightly b_ _ _ ns.
The m_ _ _ _ ng brook flows past the d_ _ _ t.
And a b_ _ _ d tweets a lovely conc_ _ _ t.

WORD BOX

chipping
barns
bird
stars
ferns
stir
dart
concert
burns

How Many? What Sound?
Directions: See how many bossy R words you can think of for each incomplete word below. Once you think of one, write it in the correct sound column below.

	/ar/	/er/	/or/
f_ _ _ m			
p_ _ _ k			
d_ _ _ t			
b_ _ _ n			
t_ _ _ n			
f_ _ _ _			

Name: _____ Independent Word Work Practice | ©BookPagez.com

Bossy R Word Hunt
Extend Engagement Activity

Directions:

- Provide students with a list of words that have bossy R spelling patterns (ar, er, ir, or, ur).
- Ask them to look through magazines and find at least 10 words that have a bossy R spelling pattern.
- Have them write their words on lined paper.
- Have students share the words they found with the class.
- As students share, write the words on the white board. Organize the words into their spelling patterns and add tallies next to any words that were found repeatedly.
- Discuss how common it is to find bossy R spelling patterns in everyday reading.
- For further extension- have students help re-sort the words on the board into their different bossy R sounds.

Teacher Directions | ©BookPagez.com

Word Detective: Bossy R
Extension Activity

Directions:
Be a word detective!
Be on the lookout for words with bossy R spelling patterns 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

Name: _____ Word Detective Extension Activity | ©BookPagez.com

Optional Activity to Extend Engagement

Word Detective