

Grade 1: The First 100 “Instant” Sight Words

These are the most often used words in reading and writing. The first 100 words are listed in order of frequency in Columns 1 through 4. Make sure your students know most of these before teaching the second 100. Teach only a few at a time to keep the success rate high. Some are phonetically regular or decodable (e.g. can, for, on) in which case it is helpful to prompt students to sound the words out, others are irregular or have phonic patterns not typically taught in first grade (e.g., was, you,now), in which case use “spell & read” to teach them. In either case the goal is to have all 100 be instant or automatic words students don’t have to stop and labor over. Use these words for flash cards, games, spelling lessons, or just read down the column for quick 1 min. timed drills, etc. These high frequency words are also called “sight words” because they must be recognized instantly, on sight, to support reading fluency.

Column 1 Words 1- 25	Column 2 Words 26- 50	Column 3 Words 51- 75	Column 4 Words 76- 100
the	or	will	number
of	one	up	no
and	had	other	way
a	by	about	could
to	words	out	people
in	but	many	my
is	not	then	than
you	what	them	first
that	all	these	water
it	were	so	been
he	we	some	called
was	when	her	who
for	your	would	oil
on	can	make	sit
are	said	like	now
as	there	him	find
with	use	into	long
his	an	time	down
they	each	has	day
I	which	look	did
at	she	two	get
be	do	more	come
this	how	write	made
have	their	go	may
from	if	see	part

Grades 2- 3: Second 100 “Instant” Sight Words

These are the most often used words in reading and writing. The second 100 words are listed in order of frequency in Columns 1 through 4. Make sure your students know most of these before teaching the third 100. Teach only a few at a time to keep the success rate high. Some are phonetically regular or decodable (e.g. set, end) in which case it is helpful to prompt students to sound the words out, others are irregular or have phonic patterns not typically taught in 2nd grade (e.g., know, new), in which case use “spell & read” to teach them. In either case the goal is to have all 100 be instant or automatic words students don’t have to stop and labor over. Use these words for flash cards, games, spelling lessons, or just read down the column for quick 1 min. timed drills, etc. These high frequency words are also called “sight words” because they must be recognized instantly, on sight, to support reading fluency.

Column 5 Words 101- 125	Column 6 Words 126- 150	Column 7 Words 151- 175	Column 8 Words 176- 200
over	say	set	try
new	great	put	kind
sound	where	end	hand
take	help	does	picture
only	through	another	again
little	much	well	change
work	before	large	off
know	line	must	play
place	right	big	spell
years	too	even	air
live	means	such	away
me	old	because	animals
back	any	turned	house
give	same	here	point
most	tell	even	page
very	boy	asked	letters
after	following	went	mother
things	came	men	answer
our	want	read	found
just	show	need	study
name	also	land	still
good	around	different	learn
sentence	form	home	should
man	three	us	American
think	small	move	world

Grades 2- 3: Third 100 “Instant” Sight Words

These are the most often used words in reading and writing. The third 100 words are listed in order of frequency in Columns 1 through 4. Make sure your students know most of these before teaching the fourth 100. Teach only a few at a time to keep the success rate high. Most are phonetically regular or decodable (e.g. side, keep) in which case it is helpful to prompt students to sound the words out, others are irregular (e.g., don't), in which case use “spell & read” to teach them. In either case the goal is to have all 100 be instant or automatic words students don't have to stop and labor over. Use these words for flash cards, games, spelling lessons, or just read down the column for quick 1 min. timed drills, etc. These high frequency words are also called “sight words” because they must be recognized instantly, on sight, to support reading fluency.

Column 9 Words 201- 225	Column 10 Words 226- 250	Column 11 Words 251- 275	Column 12 Words 276- 300
high	saw	important	miss
every	left	until	idea
near	don't	children	enough
add	few	side	eat
food	while	feet	face
between	along	car	watch
own	might	miles	far
below	close	night	Indians
country	something	walked	really
plants	seemed	white	almost
last	next	sea	let
school	hard	began	above
father	open	grow	girl
keep	example	took	sometimes
trees	beginning	river	mountains
never	life	four	cut
started	always	carry	young
city	those	state	talk
earth	both	once	soon
eyes	paper	book	list
light	together	hear	song
thought	got	stop	being
head	group	without	leave
under	often	second	family
story	run	later	it's

Grades 4- 6: Fourth 100 “Instant” Sight Words

These are the most often used words in reading and writing. The fourth 100 words are listed in order of frequency in Columns 1 through 4. Make sure your students know most of these before teaching the fifth 100. Teach only a few at a time to keep the success rate high. Most are phonetically regular or decodable (e.g. top, fish, sun) in which case it is helpful to prompt students to sound the words out, others are irregular (e.g., sure), in which case use “spell & read” to teach them. In either case the goal is to have all 100 be instant or automatic words students don’t have to stop and labor over. Use these words for flash cards, games, spelling lessons, or just read down the column for quick 1 min. timed drills, etc. These high frequency words are also called “sight words” because they must be recognized instantly, on sight, to support reading fluency. As student’s reading skills grow instant words are increasingly critical for writing.

Column 13 Words 301- 325	Column 14 Words 326- 350	Column 15 Words 351- 375	Column 16 Words 376- 400
body	order	listen	farm
music	red	wind	pulled
color	door	rock	draw
stand	sure	space	voice
sun	become	covered	seen
questions	top	fast	cold
fish	ship	several	cried
area	across	hold	plan
mark	today	himself	notice
dog	during	toward	south
horse	short	five	sing
birds	better	step	war
problem	best	morning	ground
compete	however	passed	fall
room	low	vowel	king
knew	hours	true	town
since	black	hundred	I’ll
ever	products	against	unit
piece	happened	pattern	figure
told	whole	numeral	certain
usually	measure	table	field
didn’t	remember	north	travel
friends	early	slowly	wood
easy	waves	money	fire
heard	reached	map	upon

Grades 4- 6: Fifth 100 “Instant” Sight Words

These are the most often used words in reading and writing. The fifth 100 words are listed in order of frequency in Columns 1 through 4. Make sure your students know most of these before teaching the sixth 100. Teach only a few at a time to keep the success rate high. Most are phonetically regular or decodable (e.g. top, fish, sun) in which case it is helpful to prompt students to sound the words out, others are irregular (e.g., sure), in which case use “spell & read” to teach them. In either case the goal is to have all 100 be instant or automatic words students don’t have to stop and labor over. Use these words for flash cards, games, spelling lessons, or just read down the column for quick 1 min. timed drills, etc. These high frequency words are also called “sight words” because they must be recognized instantly, on sight, to support reading and writing fluency.

Column 17 Words 401- 425	Column 18 Words 426- 450	Column 19 Words 451- 475	Column 20 Words 476- 500
done	decided	plane	filled
English	contain	system	heat
road	course	behind	full
half	surface	ran	hot
ten	produce	round	check
fly	building	boat	object
gave	ocean	game	am
box	class	force	rule
finally	note	brought	among
wait	nothing	understand	noun
correct	rest	warm	power
oh	carefully	common	cannot
quickly	scientists	bring	able
person	inside	explain	six
became	wheels	dry	size
shown	stay	though	dark
minutes	green	language	ball
strong	known	shape	material
verb	island	deep	special
stars	week	thousands	heavy
front	less	yes	fine
feel	machine	clear	pair
fact	base	equation	circle
inches	ago	yet	include
street	stood	government	built

Grades 4- 6: Sixth 100 “Instant” Sight Words

These are the most often used words in reading and writing. The Sixth 100 words are listed in order of frequency in Columns 1 through 4. Teach only a few at a time to keep the success rate high. The goal is to have all 100 be instant or automatic words students don't have to stop and labor over their pronunciation or spelling. Use these words for flash cards, games, spelling lessons, or just read down the column for quick 1 min. timed drills, etc. These high frequency words are also called “sight words” because they must be recognized instantly, on sight, to support reading and writing fluency.

Column 21 Words 501- 525	Column 22 Words 526- 550	Column 23 Words 551- 575	Column 24 Words 576- 600
can't	picked	legs	beside
matter	simple	sat	gone
square	cells	main	sky
syllables	paint	winter	glass
perhaps	mind	side	million
bill	love	written	west
felt	cause	length	lay
suddenly	rain	reason	weather
test	exercise	kept	root
direction	eggs	interest	instruments
center	train	arms	meet
farmers	blue	brother	third
ready	wish	race	months
anything	drop	present	paragraph
divided	developed	beautiful	raised
general	window	store	represent
energy	difference	job	soft
subject	distance	edge	whether
Europe	heart	past	clothes
moon	sit	sign	flowers
region	sum	record	shall
return	summer	finished	teacher
believe	wall	discovered	held
dance	forest	wild	describe
members	probably	happy	drive