



High Frequency Words

High Frequency Words are words that need to be memorized by sight because they are not decodable. Your child needs many exposures to high frequency words to become fluent readers. There are several different lists of high frequency words including; Dolch word lists and Fry's word lists. Memorizing about 300 of the most common high frequency words builds a foundation to develop reading fluency.

Strategies for Success with High Frequency Words

- Create a high frequency word book. Add words in alphabetical order, and interact with the words several times by drawing a picture, writing a sentence, rainbow writing, making a picture out of the word, etc... add new words as they are introduced, review daily.
- Highlight high frequency words in text as you read everyday.
- Use rainbow writing to write the words in different colors multiple times.
- It is important to be exposed to high frequency words in text daily.
- [Working with Words- Tic- Tac-Toe](#)
- Play matching games with high frequency words such as memory or concentration.
- Use a checklist to show progress on learning new sight words. Each time a new word is learned check the box or color a square so the student can see visually progress in new learning! This is highly motivating when students track his/her own progress.
- **Flash card activities**-Create flashcards for the high-frequency words in your lesson. Flashcards can accommodate any number of fun activities:
 - **Louder and Louder:** Have students begin reading the words on the word wall in a whisper. As they go along, have them gradually increase the volume until they are shouting by the last word.
 - **"Jeopardy":** Lay several high-frequency word cards face up on the floor. Have student mentally chooses a word and gives a clue about it: "This word begins with a *b*." The student can continue to give clues ("It rhymes with *tall*.") until the parent touches the correct card. Then the parent, sibling or partner gives the clues to the student.
 - **Funny Voices:** Use the flash cards and read a word in a robot voice, an old voice, a squeaky voice, and a monster voice.

**Adapted from www.readinga-z.com

