



SPELL-Links™ to Reading & Writing

Give your afterschool program— *and students*—a literacy boost!

With SPELL-Links, learning to read and write is not a bell-to-bell activity!

Afterschool programs that engage students in word play activities provide significant benefits to their students and score extra points with parents. When you engage after school students in SPELL-Links™ activities, all students, especially struggling readers and writers, can experience significant gains in their reading, writing, and spelling skills.

For younger students, select an activity from SPELL-Links Class Links for Classrooms. Complete the activity using the words in the Starter Word List or use words from the students' weekly spelling list (or a book they're reading). Encourage students to talk with their classmates about the sounds, letters, and meanings of the words, and to support one another during the activity. Be sure to tap into Ideas for Added Fun & Games in the Introduction section of Class Links for Classrooms.

Extend the SPELL-Links Class Links activity further through fun and meaningful activities. Invite students to select books of interest to read and choose personally meaningful writing activities like journal writing and writing letters to each other. Facilitate their reading and writing success during these activities by guiding and supporting students with application of the 14 SPELL-Links strategies for reading and writing.

For older students, select an activity from the SPELL-Links to Reading & Writing curriculum and flip to the Group Adaptation to turn the activity into a game with students working together in teams. Use words students have for their spelling or vocabulary homework that day, or ask students to choose a theme (for example, "sports"). You could also use a current event or brainstorm a theme to use in the SPELL-Links to Reading & Writing word play activity.



Extend the SPELL-Links to Reading & Writing activity further in fun and meaningful ways! Be inspired by the Cross-Curriculum Extension activities for ways to get students working together in teams to apply a newly learned word study concept. Invite students to select a book, magazine, or news article of interest to read and choose personally meaningful writing activities like journal writing and writing letters to each other. Facilitate their reading and writing success during these activities by guiding and supporting students through application of the 14 SPELL-Links strategies for reading and writing.