

Elementary & Middle School Summer Vocabulary Tip

By Ms. McGuire - Pierce 7th Grade Reading
Teacher

Vocabulary Word Walls

Word **Walls** are excellent tools for building increased **vocabulary** interaction

Why Use Word Walls?

- They provide a permanent model for sight words and high frequency words.
- They help students see patterns and relationship in words, thus building phonics and spelling skills.
- They provide reference support for children during reading and writing activities.

*Source: Reading Rockets.org

How to use Word Walls

Make words accessible by putting them where your child can see them. They should be written in large neat letters using a variety of background colors to distinguish easily confused words.

- Teachers (parents) and students (children) should work together to determine which words should go on the word wall. Try to include words that children use most commonly in their writing. Words should be added gradually — a general guideline is five words per week.
- Use the word wall daily to practice words, incorporating a variety of activities such as chanting, snapping, cheering, clapping, tracing, word guessing games as well as writing them.
- New information should be added on a regular basis.
- Word walls should be referred to often so your child comes to understand and see their relevance.

Example

Language Arts

Ask your child to hunt for words in their reading and writing that may be hard to pronounce or not easily defined. These words can create a word wall that illustrates examples of the different patterns studied.

Ms. McGuire's Word Wall Ideas

Use sticky notes

Use notecards

Use construction paper

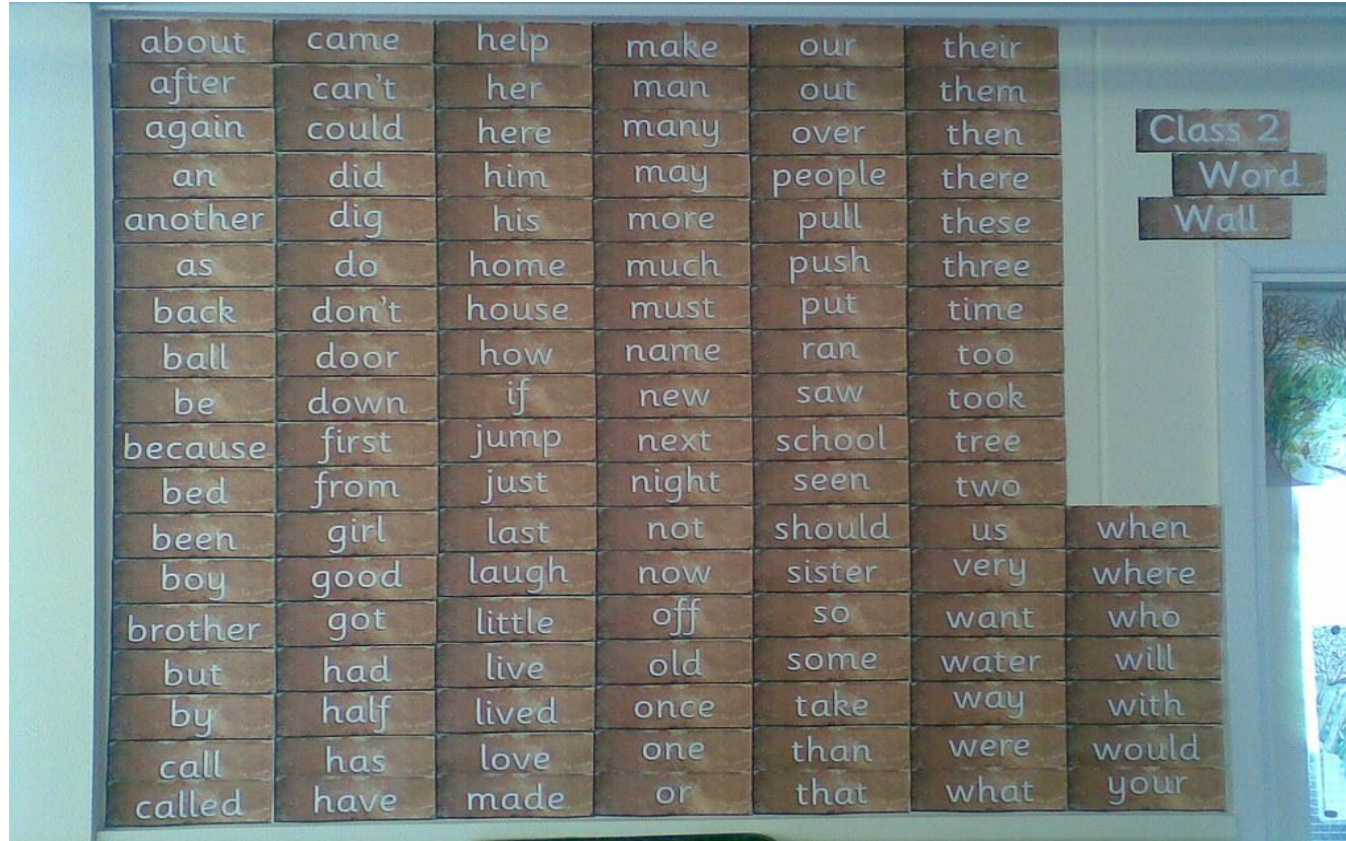
Use regular lined paper

- Place them on the refrigerator
- Place them on the hallway wall
- Place them next to the TV
- Place them on a cork board using push pins
- Make a game and hide them and have your child have to find them.

Examples



Examples



*Ms. McGuire's Tips.....

If you are having trouble not knowing what words to use.....

- Go to the Indiana Department of Education website and search academic vocabulary and type in the grade that your child is in.
- If you have a younger child, google sight words for that grade level and you should be able to find a list of words you can use.
- Have your child read to you a book that is on their grade level, as they read, notice the words that they stumble on, and write those words down. Those can be on your word wall you create.
- Change up your word wall every week to make it more interesting and give your child goals!
- I find a lot of materials at the Dollar Tree for my home word walls for my own kids.