

# Stump Your Neighbor" (Word Identification)



identify

## Why?

- Developing word identification skills to a targeted level of automaticity requires much practice. Providing this practice as a game is an excellent way to turn "work" into fun.
- To improve word identification and to allow students to have fun as they increase their sight word vocabulary.

## How?

- Gather materials: 3 x 5 cards, hole punch, snap rings (large ones, with a diameter of 2 to 3 inches), and water based markers.
- Select words from content area text and from sight word vocabulary lists.
- On the front of a 3 x 5 card, write a single word. On the back of the card, write the word in a phrase. (Use water-based markers or crayons so that the print doesn't show through to the other side.)
- Punch a hole in the upper left-hand corner of the card and put a snap ring through the hole.
- Add more difficult words to the ring as needed.
- As a warm-up activity each day, let a student choose a word from this word bank that they think is difficult to see if other students know this word. If no one else knows the word, the student has "stumped his neighbor."
- Move around the group until each student has had a least one turn challenging his or her neighbor with a chosen word.

Evaluation: An initial times measurement can be taken using a small percentage of the words to be taught. Continued timed measurements based on these words should show a decrease in time needed to say these words.

As chosen words are mastered and become more automatic, a new list of words should be supplied.