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## The Teachers' Corner

Michigan Reading Journal

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READING

LANGUAGE ARTS

IDEAS

IDEAS

IDEAS

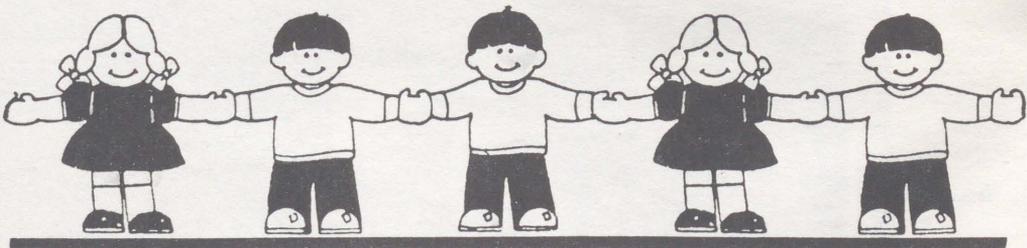
OUR READERS SHARE IDEAS

IN

**THE TEACHERS' CORNER**

PLEASE SEND YOUR CONTRIBUTION(S) FOR OUR NEXT  
ISSUE TO:

Robert Hill  
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## VOCABULARY BUILDING

A motivating way to build word recognition is to place the word on a computer card. Underneath the word print the word in a sentence. On the card, make lines for several signatures. The student is to read his/her word and sentence to people and then have them sign his/her card. The student returns the signed card to the teacher for credit.

## BOOK REPORTS

For some variety in book report ideas send a self-addressed stamped envelope to:  
Erica Fluegge, Reading Coordinator  
305 S. Michigan Avenue  
Howell, Michigan 48843

## WRITING FOR FUN

If you and your class have spring fever, how about compiling a classroom version of the Guinness Book of World Records?

## EXTRA HELP

If your readers need to read more and you need some extra help, send a book home with the child. Inside the book, tuck the following report card for the parent (your helper) to fill out and return:

(child's name) is bringing home (name of book) to read for practice and/or enjoyment. There is no due date. Please let me know how you felt your child handled the reading so I can better select the next book.

- read the book without any help
- read with only occasional help
- had difficulty reading the book

Parent's Signature

(Hint: When you read with your child, tell her/him the words s/he does not know, and ask questions about what you are reading.)

Finding an exciting and motivating way to have students work on building their sight vocabulary is often a challenge. I've found a fun but easy "go fish" game to keep my first graders interested in practicing the Dolch words.

For each level of the Dolch List I cut out of bright tagboard an animal or toy shape and print one of the words on each card. In addition to these word cards I also cut out six similar shape cards and print a "key word" on them which indicates the child has to miss a turn.

Below is a list of the shapes I choose for each level and the key words I selected to indicate a child has to miss a turn:

level	shape	key word
1	frogs	croak
2	ice cream cones	slurp
3	fish	splash
4	cars	crash
5	footballs	fumble

By adding a miss a turn card the game is made less threatening for many students and more challenging for those who need more reinforcement on just some of the words.

To play the game you need two or more people. Place all the cards at the particular level the children are working at face down and spread them out. Then one person at a time selects a card. If a person successfully says the word s/he picks s/he keeps the card. (unless, of course, it's a key word card in which case he misses a turn). The game continues until all cards are gone.

Source: Teri Muhn  
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