

Bird Word Race Sight Word practice Lesson plan

Lesson Plan: The Sight Word Sprint

Focus: High-Frequency Word Recognition & Digital Dexterity **L.A.B.S.:** Bird Word Race **Grade Level:** Kindergarten - 3rd Grade

Learning Objectives

- **Visual Word Recognition:** Students will instantly identify and select high-frequency sight words (Dolch/Fry lists) in a moving digital environment.
- **Cognitive Filtering:** Students will practice rapid decision-making by distinguishing target words from distractors.
- **Digital Dexterity:** Students will refine trackpad or mouse coordination to accurately navigate the character and catch the words.

The Activity: The 100-Word Dash

1. The "Word Wall" Warm-up (5 Mins)

- **Teacher Intro:** Before opening the laptops, select 5 target sight words for the day. Write them on the board and have the class read them aloud together. Tell the students: *"Today, our bird needs to build its nest, but it can only use real sight words. If you catch a word, you have to read it in your head!"*

2. The Race (15 Mins)

- **Phase 1 (Exploration):** Students focus on controlling the bird and understanding the movement mechanics.
- **Phase 2 (Accuracy over Speed):** Students are tasked with finding specific high-frequency words and avoiding random clicking.
- **Phase 3 (The 100-Word Goal):** Students build reading stamina by staying on task until they catch 100 sight words.

3. Reflection & Cool Down (5 Mins)

- Have students turn to a partner and share one tricky word they caught during the game.

Success Criteria

- **The Fledgling:** Successfully navigated the game and caught 50 sight words.
- **The Navigator:** Reached the 100-word goal while demonstrating controlled trackpad/mouse movements.
- **The Speed Reader:** Reached the 100-word goal and can correctly read aloud 3 of the words they caught to the teacher.

 Mr. M's Teacher Pro-Tip:

This is the ultimate independent literacy center. Because it is self-paced and ad-free, you can confidently assign this to early finishers or a small group while you run guided reading groups without worrying about students clicking on inappropriate pop-ups.

 Common Core State Standards (CCSS) Alignment

Reading: Foundational Skills (Print Concepts & Phonics)

- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.K.3.C:** Read common high-frequency words by sight (e.g., *the, of, to, you, she, my, is, are, do, does*).
 - *Lab Application:* Constant visual exposure and interactive selection of K-level sight words.
- **CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.1.3.G & RF.2.3.F:** Recognize and read grade-appropriate irregularly spelled words.
 - *Lab Application:* Game mechanics require instant recognition of words that cannot easily be sounded out, rewarding students for memorized visual recall.

Technology & Motor Skills (NJSL & General Tech)

- *Application:* Develops essential fine motor skills, hand-eye coordination, and spatial awareness required for navigating a mouse or trackpad in early elementary digital assessments.