

♥♥ February is LOVE reading month ♥♥

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Do you **ADMIRE** listening to them read?

Do they **ADORE** writing?

Have you heard of The **Secret Stories**?

Well... here's an invitation



Who: Parents/Guardians of students in grades PreK-2

Where: Pineville Elementary School

When: February 21, 2019

Why: To fall in **LOVE** with reading and writing



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February—Secret Admirer

You have a SECRET admirer. Do you want your child to LOVE reading and writing?

Vowels behave like a box of chocolates—you never know what you’re going to get. (of course you’ll have to train them to “speak like a Brit” to say “choc-O-late”

I used recycled heart-shaped boxes from chocolates or \$1 items that hold candy to put words in there for them to decode. Such words for this and/or to encode (write) are candy, flowers, cards, Valentine, conversation, admire, love (head bop or word jail), sweets, perfume, etc. I put the words in with the Secret cards from the back of the book or I cut a port-a-pic up and include the Secret that unlocks the words. I ALWAYS collect these when they’re done. I usually have a volunteer share out and explain the Secrets as well.

Use conversation hearts or red/white/pink M&Ms or sixlets or any candy for candy quizzes. I give every family a box of conversation hearts, scrap paper, and pencil for this activity to do together.


Make homemade cards for the words to write with Secrets.

Letter runs with a “love song” such as Barney’s “I love you, you love me. We’re a happy family...” I have them sing the song with words first, then hum it or just say “la”. THEN, we add the letter sounds in there.

VOWEL HEARTS! This is my favorite! Jami Moore laminated hearts cut on the Ellison die cut machine and used them as dry erase. Brilliant.

Connect three or four hearts and you can laminate them. Students are reminded every part of every words has to have a vowel heart or it will die. They can break words apart into syllables, vowel hearts, and write each part on one heart. The words will have as many hearts as syllables.

Con-ver-sa-tion



January—Winter Wonderland

“Do you WONDER how your child will ever LAND at a higher reading level?”

Find Secrets in and/or write from the following word bank

winter, frosty, snowfall, snowflake, snowman, frozen, chilly, wonderland. freezing scarf, coat, glove, (word jail or head bop trick), heater, furnace, fireplace, etc.

*You can put words in or on a mitten and pass them out and let someone else find a word with the secret on it (I cut out a port-a-pic for this activity or use the cards from the back of the book). Then make a match.

Letter runs with songs like Frosty the Snowman, Walking in a Winter Wonderland

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March—Secret Stash at the end of the rainbow

Lucky you! You know how to find Secrets hidden in words. Can you find the Leprechaun’s gold?

Lucky the Leprechaun needs your help.

Word bank: leprechaun (the conductor part of the ch secret), lucky, green, Irish, clover, leaf, gold, rainbow, March, etc.

Find Secrets in words.

Use a clover with three or four leaves for vowel hearts (syllables). The leaves can be hearts folded in half down the center.

Letter runs to “Zip a dee doo da” perhaps.

Write a letter to the leprechaun to persuade him to tell you where his secret stash is.

Use green candies for candy quizzes.

April/May—Showers of Secrets

April showers bring May Flowers.

Garden theme.

Use seed packets to find Secrets in the names of flowers, herbs, fruits, vegetables, etc.

Word bank: garden, flower, showers, soil, shovel (head bop or jail), glove (same), plant, daisy, carnation, rose, watermelon, onion, spring, digging, bees, rain, clouds, cloudy, etc.

Letter runs with “Singing in the rain” or others.

Make labels for your garden (bulletin board idea) and label parts of the plant with secrets (leaf, stem, root, flower, petal, soil etc.)

Give the labeled flower pictures to the moms for Mother’s Day.

June/July/August—Secret to a Great Summer Vacation

Word bank: summer, vacation, August, June, July, swim, airport, airplane, beach, etc.

September—FALL into great reading and writing habits

Word bank: school, fall, pencil, crayon, marker, paper, notebook, textbook, teacher, principal, autumn, ride (the bus), walk (to school), name, write, sentence, etc.

October—Spooky Secrets

Word bank: October, Halloween, costume, pumpkin, pie, spooky, sound, dark, howl, goblin, ghost, witch, brew, broom, orange, black, haunted, house, etc.

Give words in little pumpkins from the dollar store or attach to bats, witch hats, etc.

Vowel hearts: could be orange hearts made to look like pumpkins on a vine connected by green paper or marker.

Black and orange candies for candy quizzes with words from word bank.

Write a spooky story.

Letter runs with any Halloween story the kids know. Sing with words. Hum the tune. Then, sing with letter sounds.

November—Thankful for the Secrets

Word bank: thankful, thanks, giving, give, turkey, pie, candy, corn, fall, meal, family, stuffing, etc.

Mini foil pie pans to put a word in and give the “Secret ingredient” card from the back of the book or a port-a-pic. I collect these at the end unless they are purchased to where a parent can keep a port-a-pic at home.

Use white paper or paper placemats to decorate and/or draw the meal and label each item using Secrets.

Use candy corn for candy quizzes.

Sing any Thanksgiving song your students know to do the letter runs. Get your music teacher involved.

December—Secret Santa

Word bank: Christmas, presents, packages, chimney, coal, stocking, nice, naughty, bows, wrapping paper, jingle bells, silent, night, calm, bright, lights, snowman, candy, cane, caroling, white, etc.

Grinch theme word bank: Grinch, mean, garlic, termites, smile, pole, eel, vile, rotten, nasty, crooked, etc.

I get small gift bags and boxes to put a word and the secret in to pass out for parents to try and students to explain. Have a few volunteers share out.

Letter runs with any Christmas carol. Sing with words first. Hum the tune. Then sing it with letter sounds. You could assign different groups of parents and students a different carol each.

Letter runs to the Grinch song.

Use red and green candies for candy quizzes.

Parents and students write a letter to Santa together.

Secret Stories Concentration Game with Words

- Preparation

1) Secret Stories Cards- Use the small cards from the back of your Secret Stories book to play the game, or cut apart a "Porta-Pic" trifold to make small individual game cards. (These are sold in packs of 25 on the Secret Stories website.)

2) Level 1- Print level 1a, level 1b, and level 1c from the digital file on colored (preferably cardstock) paper so as to be able to differentiate them from the white-backed Secret Stories cards. Cut apart.

- How to Play

1) Lay all cards out facedown (so that kids cannot see the pictures or words) in 'grid-like' rows and columns (okay to mix them).

2) Take turns flipping over one of each (one Secret Story card and one word card) with the goal of finding a match. If the letters on the Secret Story card are in the word card turned over, they have a match. To keep the match they must read the word card to their opponents. If one student is unable to read the word on the card, his opponents can help them by asking, "What sound does the Secret Story make in the word?" and helping the student read the card if necessary. The student with the most matches wins.

- Tips

1) If your students are not ready for the harder Secrets, or have not learned them all, don't use those cards yet in the game.

2) For an even easier version of the game, you can underline and/or code (highlight) the Secret pattern in each word card. This helps students identify which Secret Stories card they are looking for to match with the word card pulled.

3) Be sure to print the words on colored cardstock for ease of use for students.

4) There are blank cards so you can create your own words. These could be your weekly sight words, story vocabulary words, etc.

5) The goal is to get your students reading the words with the Secret Stories!

www.TheSecretStories.com

quit

chat

few

look

she

why

know

way

the

awful

tree

boy

phone

out

yell

ball



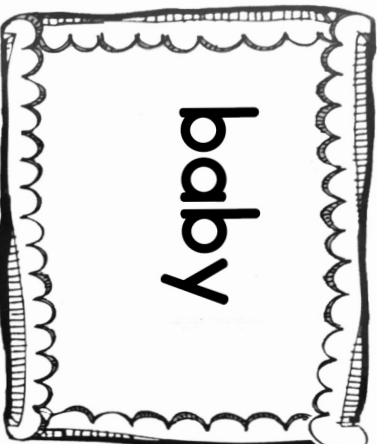
ghost



joyous



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baby



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onion



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or



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car



Fred



name



it

