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About This Book

Advanced vocabulary words and their meanings are “caught” rather than “taught” through the activities in Crypt-O-Words. On each page, students are invited to guess a vocabulary word by looking for clues within the text or graphics at the top of the page. Then, the guess is confirmed, or the word determined, and students follow directions to solve a puzzle, cipher, or word game that reinforces the word’s meaning. Activities promote multiple exposures to many advanced vocabulary words and incorporate famous quotes, science, historical references, analogies, and more.

Vocabulary enrichment has never been so engaging and fun!

Teaching Suggestions

These enrichment activities may be used in many ways to supplement language arts and multidisciplinary instruction (see below). In the teacher notes you will find specific TIPS and HINTS for helping students when they’re stumped and for extending learning. The goal is to make the learning fun and engaging so that students are challenged without feeling they are being tested. Encourage students to create their own Crypt-O-Word sets to enhance their vocabularies beyond the thirty words included in this book.

You might like to:

- implement a “Word of the Week” enrichment program
- offer these activities to students who would benefit from advanced vocabulary, perhaps as a form of differentiation for weekly classwork or homework
- create a center or bulletin board entitled Crypt-O-Words with copies of these pages for students to work on as they have time. Student-created Crypt-O-Words could be displayed here.

CRYPT-O-WORD JR #2

Dear Mom,



Camp has been fun, but the past few days, it's been raining constantly! In fact, one day, there was such a downpour that we had to wade through water to get to the meeting house.

Also, due to the drenching rain, the postal service could not deliver the mail to our camp. So, today, a flood of mail came in from all the parents. We had to sort through piles of letters to find them, but I got five letters from you! Thanks!

Love,
Spencer

What's the Word?

- A.** The underlined words in the letter are hints. Crypt-O-Word #2 is a word that means *downpour*, *drenching rain*, or *flood*. It has 6 letters. Find the word by doing the puzzle below. Write the answer to each clue in the row, one letter in each box. The first one has been done for you.

CLUES

1. Twelve items make a _____.
2. This person makes cakes and bread.
3. It is often paired with peanut butter.
4. It's the opposite of *over*.
5. It means *incorrect* or *not right*.
6. Three types are *pinto*, *lima*, and *green*.

1.	D	O	Z	E	N
2.					
3.					
4.					
5.					
6.					

- B.** Write the circled letters on the lines below, in order from #1 to #6.

Crypt-O-Word #2 is

Unscramble the Words

C. In Spencer's letter to his mom, he said there had been a *flood* of mail. He meant that many letters had been delivered all at once, coming in like a flood. Write Crypt-O-Word #2 on the empty lines below. Then, unscramble the letters under the blanks to write words that make sense.

1. The phone kept ringing and ringing. In the office, there was a...

_____ of _____
E O P N H L A C S L

2. They were selling so many tickets, the cash box was overflowing from the...

_____ of _____
O D R L A L L B L S I

3. The airport was so full, many could not get to their flights because of the...

_____ of _____
R A T E V E S L R

4. The storm hammered the city. There was a...

_____ of _____ and _____
R N I A L A H I

Draw It

D. When it rains heavily, some say, "It's raining cats and dogs!" Below, draw a

_____ of something else you'd like to see falling from the sky!

Crypt-O-Word #2