Language Arts Warm-Ups

adjective

adverb

singular

plural

noun

verb

i before e

RESEARCH AND STANDARDS

Research has shown that segmentation, or "breaking down a task," is an effective method to use when teaching students with learning differences. Students with special needs cannot process large amounts of information at one time. However, according to Russell Gersten, presenting small segments of information and then immediately applying that information has been proven to be a successful teaching method (1999). The activities in the *Language Arts Warm-Ups* series do just that. They present small, sequenced bits of instruction with ample opportunities for practice. These pages are excellent supplements for any language arts program designed to help students sharpen their writing skills. In a report prepared for the National Center for Learning Disabilities, it was pointed out that "teaching skills such as spelling and punctuation in conjunction with skills such as organization, text structure, and revision techniques" helps students become better writers (1999).

Grammar and Spelling

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Regarding spelling, studies show that students with learning differences should be taught "specific spelling strategies for various word types" to improve comprehension and performance (2000). *Language Arts Warm-Ups: Grammar and Spelling*, spelling strategies are discussed for words that are homonyms and homophones or are confusing for various other reasons. Specific, developmentally appropriate and focused practice is provided for each rule so that students can easily apply the spelling or writing skill.

Darch, C., et. al. (2000). "The Strategic Spelling Skills of Students With Learning Disabilities: The Results of Two Studies." *Journal of Instructional Psychology*, 27.1: 15–27.

Gersten, R. (May 1999). "Teaching Expressive Writing to Students With Learning Disabilities." *Keys to Successful Learning Summit*, Washington, D.C.

Swanson, H. (May 1999). "National Center for Learning Disabilities Intervention Research for Adolescents With Learning Disabilities: A Meta-Analysis of Outcomes Related to High-Order Processing." *Keys to Successful Learning Summit*, Washington, D.C.

Grammar and Spelling