

## Reading High-Frequency Words: 200 Words

**Description** Children read a list of high-frequency words.

- You Need**
- ▶ 200 High-Frequency Words, Lists 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5
  - ▶ 200 High-Frequency Words Assessment—Individual Record form
  - ▶ 200 High-Frequency Words Assessment—Class Record form

**Why Use It** The assessments are designed to give you a range of assessment options depending on student ability. Each of the high-frequency assessments includes a greater number of words that gradually increase in difficulty level. You may choose to begin with 25 words and move up through each one or you can pick the list you think would be most appropriate for your students.

This assessment will tell you the extent of the children’s knowledge of high-frequency words as well as the particular words they know. Their substitutions will tell you what word parts they notice.

*Children need to be able to read a large number of high-frequency words. However, don’t build your phonics and word-solving program around memorising words; using patterns and parts (for example, using phonograms, letter clusters and affixes) are more powerful strategies.*

- How to Use It**
- ▶ Administer this test individually.
  - ▶ Begin with the 80 easier high-frequency words included on Lists 1, 2 and 3. Work with one list at a time. If you think they are very easy, use the 120 additional high-frequency words on Lists 4 and 5.
  - ▶ Ask the child to read the list of words you’ve selected.
  - ▶ Children should be able to read the list quickly. Don’t spend too much time on any word; tell the child to skip it and go on. If children are missing or refusing to attempt a large number of words, suggest they look down the list to see if there are any they know or stop the assessment.
  - ▶ Record the child’s correct responses as well as substitutions on the Individual Record form.

- What to Notice**
- ▶ Number of high-frequency words read accurately
  - ▶ Speed of word recognition
  - ▶ Partially correct attempts or parts of words known
  - ▶ Degree of difficulty of known words