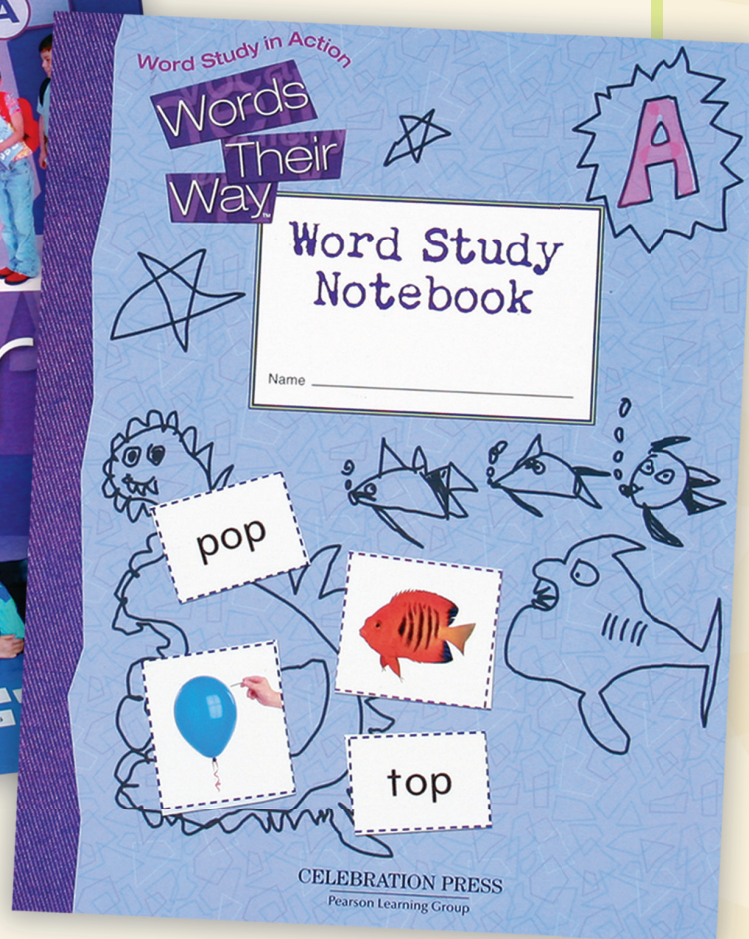
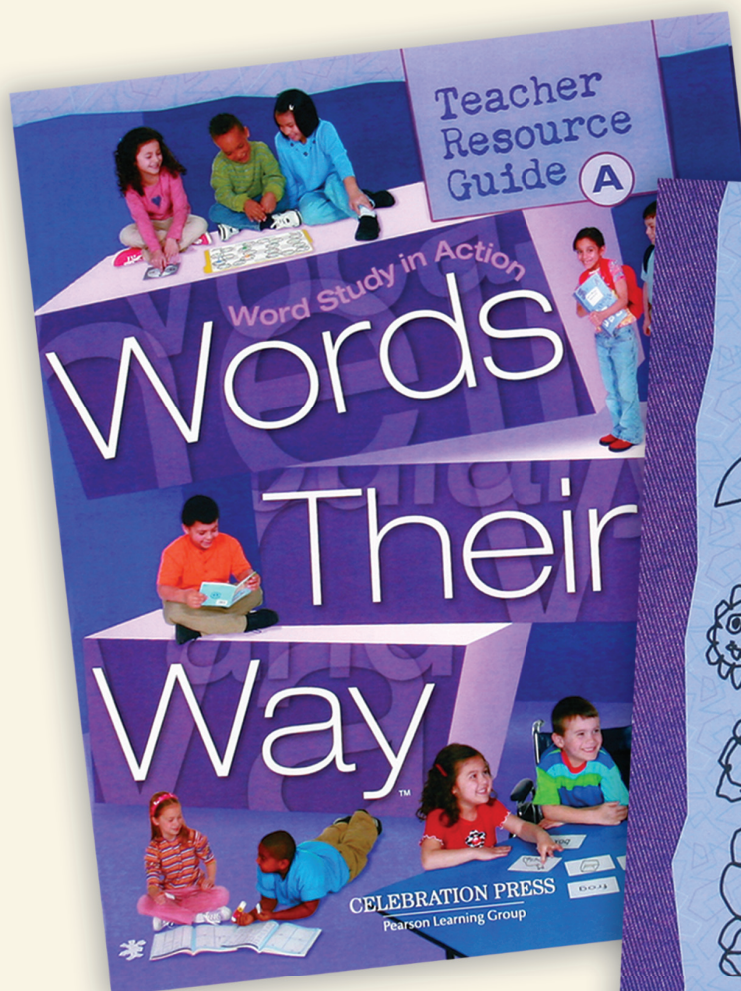


PARENT GUIDE 

Words Their Way™: Word Study in Action

Homeschool bundle includes:

- Student Word Study Notebook
- Teacher Resource Guide
- Word Sort Envelope



Because You Know What Matters Most



Thank you for choosing Pearson to help you on your homeschool journey. Making the right decision about homeschooling can set your child on an exciting path to a lifetime of learning and success. Pearson makes it easy for you to inspire a joy of learning with flexible programs to fit your child's unique learning style. This built-in flexibility lets you set the schedule and the pace that works for you and your child. As you read through this guide and review the included materials, you'll experience how easy it is to personalize the curriculum to match your child's learning style and ensure success with our engaging programs.

Plus, you can rest assured that all of the fundamentals for success are included. The homeschool curriculum you have chosen has been thoughtfully developed and tested by seasoned professionals, to make sure your child receives the finest education.

Welcome to Pearson Homeschool!

Preparation

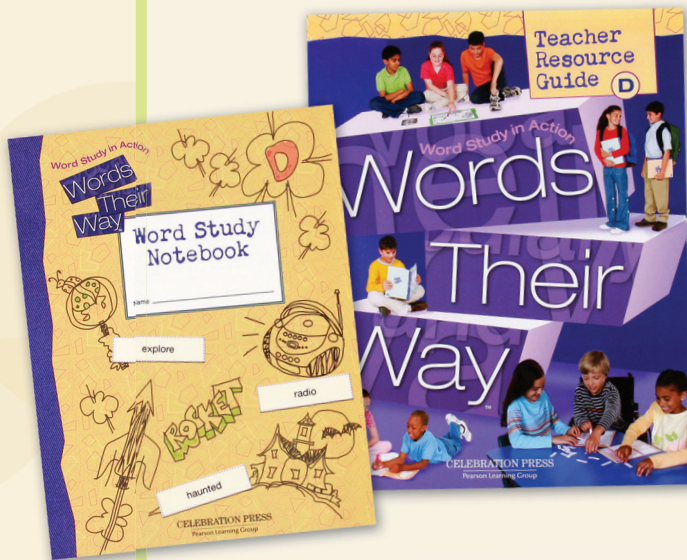
It is always an exciting time when you get to open the box with your new curriculum. All of the books and materials are colorful, the pages are crisp and they are filled with the possibilities of the coming year. The anticipation of using the books and teaching your child is new and fresh. Like the air after a spring shower, it is invigorating. You can't wait until you can get started.

Open the bundle of materials, flip through the pages of each book, take in how they look and feel. Get familiar with all of the components. Let your child share in the excitement and catch the enthusiasm you have for starting this new adventure. These will be your companions over the course of the next year.

Once you get familiar with the material, you may experience the overwhelming feeling that is common to homeschool parents: "How will I ever cover all of this material?" You may be flooded with insecurities that you don't know or remember the subject or content. All of these are normal thoughts and experiences for anyone who has homeschooled.

Remember the value of the journey you are on. Focus on the reasons you chose to homeschool in the first place, the daily interaction with your child, and teaching them how to learn. As the tutor, you as the parent don't have to know all of the material. It's fine to learn it with your child as you go through the material together. You are the guide for your child as you journey with them through the learning process.





Overview

The *Words Their Way™: Word Study in Action* homeschool bundle includes the following components:

- Student Workbook
- Teacher Resource Guide
- Word Sort Envelope

Words Their Way: Word Study in Action will help you teach your child phonics, spelling, and vocabulary. This powerful approach to word study encourages a close look at words to discover the regularities and conventions of written English needed to read and spell.

The heart of the *Words Their Way: Word Study in Action* program is the sort, or process of grouping sounds, words, and pictures that represent words, into specific categories. Word sorting includes directed instruction as well as independent learning. You begin by demonstrating how to sort picture or word cards by sound or pattern. Later, as your child sorts word and picture cards on their own, they make discoveries and generalizations about the conventions of English.

The *Words Their Way: Word Study in Action* program corresponds to 5 developmental levels of spelling:

- **LEVEL A** Letter Name-Alphabetic
- **LEVEL B** Within Word Pattern
- **LEVEL C** Syllables and Affixes
- **LEVEL D** Middle-Late Syllables
- **LEVEL E** Derivational Relations



Using the Materials

Pearson curriculum materials are thoughtfully planned to present the subject in a way that is engaging. Each lesson builds upon itself, while providing you with the flexibility to make it your own.



Using the Student Word Study Notebook

Each notebook features 36-38 sorts (lessons) of four pages each, plus an accompanying activity. Students study words by cutting, sorting, classifying, and pasting/categorizing them according to spelling patterns, sounds, word families, etc. Lessons consist mostly of sorting cards to encourage hands-on involvement that helps teach your child to recognize letters, patterns, and concepts in new contexts. Each sort is designed to be completed in one week. Each book features Spell Checks. Use the Spell Checks to determine what your child has learned and what he or she may still need help with. Then, use the results to plan the next step of your child's instruction. Spell Checks are located at the end of the *Student Word Study Notebook*.

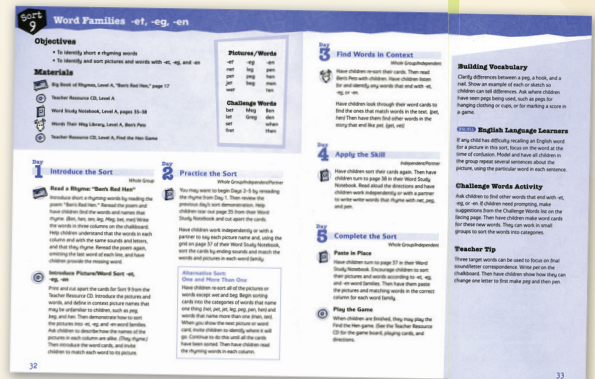
Using the Teacher Resource Guide

At the beginning of the *Teacher Resource Guide* you will find a brief overview of the developmental stages of word knowledge. In addition, you will find the Scope and Sequence for the first 4 levels of *Words Their Way: Word Study in Action* to see how skills are developed using this program.

The *Teacher Resource Guide* covers each lesson with a "Walk Through the Week" overview. The lesson plan for each sort is presented in a logical and easy-to-follow method. It provides additional ideas for sorting, building vocabulary, and using challenge words.

- Objectives: At the top of each lesson, objectives will identify a skill that will be covered in the lesson and describe what children will accomplish.
- Pictures and words in the lesson are clearly identified in this section.
- Additional challenge words that coordinate with the lesson's skills are also identified here.
- The suggested daily lesson plan for the week is then presented, describing the introduction to the lesson, practice and guided review, context of the words, application of the lesson's skills, and completion of the activity.

Use the word sort envelope to keep all of the cut-out word sorts in one, easy location. You can attach the envelope on the inside back cover of the *Student Word Study Notebook*.



Lesson Plans

Lesson plans are important to a successful homeschool environment. They help keep you on track, progress through the material and provide a steady structure for teaching your child. It is important to plan out your lessons but remember, lesson plans are a guide. You should leave room to adapt to your child and adjust the plan to ensure he or she understands the material. The objective is to have a tool you can use to watch your child progress and master the material you present over the school year.

Before you begin your lesson plan, review the *Student Word Study Notebook* and *Teacher Resource Guide* to see how the material is structured. There are a number of items to consider when preparing your plan. How many days per week will you have school? Do you plan to have extended breaks for the holidays or vacations? The number of children you have and their ages will affect how and what you can do as well.

Lesson plans in general should have certain vital components. A suggested list would include some or all of the following:

- the portion of text covered during the lesson
- key concepts
- activities to do
- assignments given
- main ideas of the lesson
- questions to ask
- potential field trip ideas
- materials and resources needed

The *Words Their Way: Word Study in Action* program includes lesson plans for each of the word sort units in the “Walk Through the Week” overview. The suggested daily lesson plan for the week is presented, describing the introduction to the lesson, practice and guided review, context of the words, application of the lesson’s skills, and completion of the activity.

Each sort is designed to be completed in one week. Introductory lessons will take about 20 minutes; subsequent activities last about 15 minutes, mostly as independent learning. These 15-20 minute lessons are a great compliment to the rest of your literacy curriculum and are easy to fit into any lesson plan.

Additionally, the way the lessons are structured, it is easy to adapt them to any tracking requirements that your local area or state may require. You can refer to the Pearson Homeschool website for links to the Department of Education for each state to review your local laws and requirements and how to comply with them.

Adapt the Curriculum to Fit your Situation

One of the great benefits of homeschooling is that everything you teach can be personalized to fit your child. The *Words Their Way: Word Study in Action* program is easy to adapt to any literacy curriculum so you can easily customize it to fit your child's learning style.

Pacing

Pacing is a breeze with the *Words Their Way: Word Study in Action* program. Since each lesson only takes 15-20 minutes and leads into self-guided instruction, this program easily adapts to your schedule. If your child needs more time with other subjects, it is easy to shift this lesson to another time of the day. This allows your child to focus on needed subjects and still complete these lessons. Furthermore, the hands-on nature of this program helps break-up the pace of the other subjects. Finally, if your child needs more focus on phonics, spelling or vocabulary, you can easily fit multiple lessons into one day.

Teaching is Everywhere

One of the benefits of homeschooling is that teaching can occur all the time. You can incorporate learning into everyday life. It is simple to take this program with you outside of your homeschool environment. You can go beyond the images within the sorts and have your child match the sorts with the physical objects or additional objects beyond the lesson.

Do not be afraid to add to the curriculum. Use your own resources to complement the material. Plan a field trip and look for ways to incorporate the day's lessons into your activities.



Thank you

As you progress along the journey, you will have moments of frustration and moments that make it all worthwhile. Remember to keep it in perspective. Homeschool parents live for those moments when their children are most teachable. You will know when those moments happen as you can see the light go on, they really get it. Cherish those times and use them as the fuel to motivate you through the tough times.

Thank you for choosing Pearson as a partner in your homeschool journey. We know the importance that you place in taking the time to teach your child and we appreciate your trust in us to help you and your child achieve the best education possible.



Additional Resources

Words Their Way: Word Study in Action can be used in conjunction with other reading, spelling, and vocabulary programs such as:



- **MCP "Plaid" Phonics** – Workbook-type program that presents skills in a systematic and direct manner. Follows a teach-practice-apply format.



- **Sing, Spell, Read & Write** – A multi-sensory approach to phonics instruction that incorporates songs, interactive charts and games. Children move through the program along a very systematic and sequenced path.

You can find out more about these programs on our website at:

www.PearsonHomeschool.com.

For product related questions, please contact 1-800-848-9500
or submit the Contact Us form available on our website.

ISBN-13: 978-0-328-72215-0
ISBN-10: 0-328-72215-4



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