Lesson Plans

Recommended Grade Levels: 3rd and up

Recommended Subjects: Language arts

Applicable Concepts, Skills, and Strategies:
- Vocabulary development
- Multiple meanings
- Compound words
- Problem solving
- Connecting thoughts and ideas
- Oral communication
- Listening
- Inductive and deductive learning

To learn more about Buzzword and Buzzword Junior, visit www.patchproducts.com or call 1-800-524-4263
Activity #1

On the board, overhead, or chart paper list the following Buzzword phrases. Ask the students to read the list and think about how all of the phrases are alike.

- High five
- Five card stud
- Nine-to-five
- Take five
- Five o’clock shadow
- Jackson Five
- Five for Fighting
- Hawaii Five-O
- Five Alive
- Five-dollar bill

The common feature of the above listing is they all include the word “five.” Have the students work individually or with a partner to create definitions/clues for each of these phrases. Then working with another team, person, or as a whole class activity, take turns sharing a definition and having others make a buzzing sound when they know which phrase is being defined. The person with the correct answer can give the next definition.

Activity #2

Use sets of two cards that include a Buzzword phrase on one card and its definition/clue on the other card. Have enough cards for the entire class. Randomly distribute the cards and then direct the students to find the person with the card that goes with theirs. This is a good way to create teams or partners for other activities. You will find a set of possible game cards at the end of these plan ideas.
Activity #3

Begin your class period with a Buzzword. As students enter the class they look at the day’s word and begin to make a list of words & phrases that use the word. They also create a definition/clue for each idea. You may use a word that is specific to the content of the day’s lesson or choose from one of the words listed below. This is a great way to keep your students’ minds active from the first moment of the class period. Take time to share a few definitions/clues before the day’s lesson begins.

Some good Buzzwords to use: snow, day, wind, red, pig, chip, cheese, ice, eat, ball, lose, after, blue, over, cake, and corn.

Activity #4

Place your students into groups of 4 for this cooperative learning activity. Have each group member adopt one of the following roles: Reader, Writer, Speaker, or Buzzer. Each group will receive a Buzzword and list of clues (without answers). (You may give all groups the same list or different lists.)

The Reader will read the clues, and the Writer will record the group’s answers. All members need to participate in solving the clues. When all clues are solved to the group’s satisfaction, the Buzzer makes a buzzing sound. At this point all groups stop their work, turn over their papers, and listen to the responses of the group that buzzed. These responses will be read aloud by the Speaker. If the same lists are used, the groups may compare answers. If different lists are used, the responding group will get a new list if all the answers are acceptable. The other groups continue with their list until they, too, can buzz.

Establish a time allotment for this activity. The objective is for each group to complete as many lists as possible. Several Buzzwords and clue lists are included for possible use at the end of these plans.
Take-Home Activity

Use the Buzzwords and clue lists from Activity #4 as family involvement homework. Encourage the students to share the lists with their family to solve the clues. For extra fun suggest they work together to develop a family Buzzword and clue list that can be shared with the class.

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Answer Key

Activity #2:  
Scrambled egg = Beaten, then fried
Water spout = climbed by the Itsy Bitsy Spider
Egg carton = Box with 12 cavities
Water buffalo = Animal like a wildebeest
Moon rock = Little piece taken from the lunar surface
Plymouth Rock = The Pilgrims landed here
Blue’s Clues = Nickelodeon’s sleuth dog show
Bluegrass State = Kentucky’s nickname
Never-Never Land = Peter Pan’s home
Land ho! = Shout it from the ship when you see land
Three little pigs = Wolf targets
Pig Pen = Charlie Brown’s messy friend
Billfold = Another name for wallet

Activity #4:  JACK
Jack be nimble...= Jack jumped over the candlestick
Pancake = Flapjack
Paul Bunyan was a big one = Lumberjack
He sat in the corner... = Little Jack Horner
Fairytale of a boy/magic beans = Jack & the Beanstalk

HAT
Take up a collection = Pass the hat
Storybook Feline = Cat in the Hat
Magicians do it every day = Pull a rabbit out of the hat
Join in the competition = Throw your hat in the ring
Mum’s the word = Keep it under your hat

CHAIR
A baby’s feeding seat = High chair
Takes you up the ski hill = Chair lift
Get your hair cut in this = Barber’s chair
Bathroom learning tool for toddlers = Potty chair
Mom sits here to soothe the baby = Rocking chair

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BALL
On top of spaghetti = Meatball
America’s favorite pastime = Baseball
A psychic stares into one = Crystal ball
Inflatable sand toy = Beach ball
A tart hard candy = Sour ball

CAKE
A single-serving frosted treat = Cupcake
Easy as pie = Piece of cake
A dessert fit for a mouse = Cheesecake
Dessert at your personal annual celebration = Birthday cake
Bride and groom’s towering treat = Wedding cake

LIGHT
Comes before the thunder = Lightning
Traffic signal = Stoplight
Not heavy, as in a jacket or sweater = Lightweight
Time to go to bed = Lights out
Glow reflected off the lunar surface = Moonlight

NIGHT
Bad and scary dream = Nightmare
Some girls wear this when they sleep = Nightgown
Twelve o’clock, not noon = Midnight
Use this at night so it’s not dark in your room = Night-light
Not last night and not tomorrow night = Tonight

CARD
Your school grades = Report card
Boxes are made of this = Cardboard
Crazy Eights, Solitaire, War are... = Card games
Magicians perform these = Card tricks
A friend or relative sends this when you’re sick = Get-well card
ROOM
Where you sleep = Bedroom
College home and hangout = Dorm room
Sofa/TV place at home = Family room
Where you change before gym class = Locker room
Place for students and teachers = Classroom

HOT
Popular topping for an ice cream sundae = Hot fudge
Big, colorful, and inflated with a basket for people = Hot-air balloon
Another name for a wiener = Hot dog
Drink this to warm up in the winter = Hot chocolate
Grouchy person = Hothead

PIE
You eat this at Thanksgiving = Pumpkin pie
The shell that you put pie filling in = Pie crust
If you're sweet, they might call you this = Cutie pie
This pie is very American = Apple pie
If something isn't hard to do, it's as... = Easy as pie

DOOR
Ring this to see if anybody's home = Doorbell
The main entrance to a house = Front door
Turn this to open it = Doorknob
Wipe your feet here before you enter = Doormat
This door has a mesh fabric to let air in = Screen door