



Dictionary Skill: Guide Words: Grade 2 Sample

Open a dictionary. Look at the top of the page. What do you see? _____

Now try to find those two words someplace else on that page. Where are they?

These two words are called **guide words**. Find the entry word **guide**.

Write the definition: _____

What do guide words do? _____

All the other words on the page come alphabetically between these two words.

ACTIVITY: Play “Lost on Safari”

Directions: Lost on Safari (whole class game)

Objective: Practice ABC order and Understanding Guide Words

Each student gets 4 slips of paper. Each child opens the dictionary to any page. On 1 slip of paper the child will write the first word on that page. This is one guide word. On another slip of paper the child will write the last word on that page. This is the second guide word. On each of the other two slips the child will write two words from that page. Then they mix up the 4 slips of paper. When all children have 4 words written they go around and alphabetize the four words on another child’s desk. To check their work the teacher can have the child find the page in the dictionary and self-check or the child can go and ask the “expert” (the child who wrote the slips of paper). They should identify the first word as the first guide word and the last of the four alphabetized words as the second guide word.

The teacher may want to prepare extra sets of words for the student(s) who finishes writing their set first. That way students don’t waste time waiting for other children to finish. As children get better at this activity it can be made more difficult by increasing the number of words the children write in their sets of cards.

Example: The guide words at the top of the page are **guess** and **guitar**. **Guess** is written on one slip of paper. **Guitar** is written on a second slip of paper. **Guest** and **guilty** are two other words on that page. They each go on a separate slip of paper. Mix up the words.

This activity can be repeated throughout the year for practice.

Grade 5 Sample:

PART FIVE –Aesop’s Fables

Look at the underlined words. Follow the directions.

You will either write a dictionary definition of the word

OR circle or **highlight** the correct definition for the underlined word.



<p>A Wolf found great difficulty in getting at the sheep owing to the <u>vigilance</u> of the shepherd and his dogs. But one day it found the skin of a sheep that had been <u>flayed</u> and thrown aside, so it put in on over its own <u>pelt</u> and strolled down among the sheep.</p>	<p> Look it up!</p> <p>vigilance—</p> <p>flay (flā) <i>v.</i> 1. To strip off the skin of. 2. To criticize or scold harshly.</p> <p>pelt (pělt) <i>n.</i> 1. An animal skin with the fur still on. 2. To hit over and over.</p>
<p>The Lamb that belonged to the sheep, whose skin the Wolf was wearing, began to follow the Wolf in the Sheep's clothing.</p> <p>So, leading the Lamb a little apart, he soon made a meal of her, and for some time he succeeded in <u>deceiving</u> the sheep, and enjoying <u>hearty</u> meals.</p>	<p> Look it up!</p> <p>deceive—</p> <p>hearty (här' tē) <i>adj.</i> 1. Showing warm, cheerful, friendly feelings. 2. Complete, thorough. 3. Giving much nourishment: <i>a hearty soup.</i></p>
<p>Moral: Appearances are <u>deceptive</u>.</p>	<p> Look it up!</p> <p>deceptive—</p>