

# WORD of the Week

## GRADES 3-4

Build students' writing, speaking, and test-taking vocabularies week-by-week with this fun vocabulary development program with a *twist* – appealing, large-format cartoons that students will laugh about and remember!

### Using the Word of the Week Program

Designate a set time at the beginning of the week for introducing each Word of the Week. Separate the target word, its definition, and the cartoon along the perforated edges. (Note: The words, definitions, and cartoons are all numbered to make keeping them together easy.) Display them in the pockets, leaving room at the bottom for student-written sentences. Discuss each word, including its part of speech, definition, and use in the cartoon. Have each student write a sentence using the target word in class or as a homework assignment. Focus on the word, using some of the tips below, for a week. When you are done, store the materials in the handy storage pocket on the back.

### Tips

Here are some ways to review the target Word of the Week:

- Post and discuss a new student-written sentence each day.
- Keep a tally on the board each time the word is used appropriately during the school day.
- Have students bring in and share newspaper headlines or sentences they have copied from books or magazines in which the target word is used.
- Add the target word to your weekly spelling test as extra credit.
- Create a word wall by writing each new word on a sentence strip and posting it. This attention-getting visual display will remind students to use their new vocabulary words in their everyday speech and writing. Students can also add synonyms below the words as they think of them during the week.
- Have students copy the word and its definition onto opposite sides of an index card. By the end of the year, students will have a library of vocabulary flash cards.

### Using the Reproducible Pages

We have included a quiz or activity for each group of ten words. The quizzes can be used for both pre- and post test assessment. In addition, we have included a Make-Your-Own Cartoon page. Having students create their own cartoons for the target words in the program is an excellent way of checking and reinforcing their understanding of word meanings. You may also have students choose words from their reading to illustrate. Display the cartoons or make copies and bind them into a book for your classroom library, or submit them to the school newsletter.

Here are some tips to inspire your budding cartoonists:

- Make it autobiographical.
- Use historical or storybook characters in unexpected situations.
- Give people ridiculous super powers or give animals abilities they wouldn't normally have.

### Word List

The 40 words in the program are introduced in the following order:

|         |             |
|---------|-------------|
| strive  | hurl        |
| immense | irate       |
| abode   | dingy       |
| ponder  | tranquil    |
| wallop  | pact        |
| culprit | drowsy      |
| blunder | flawless    |
| eerie   | prank       |
| heed    | throng      |
| utter   | plead       |
| attire  | thorough    |
| superb  | jostle      |
| sliver  | timid       |
| baffle  | amble       |
| taunt   | bedlam      |
| murmur  | jaunt       |
| hasty   | scrumptious |
| shriek  | flaunt      |
| jovial  | slumber     |
| lug     | feign       |

### Answer Key

#### Quiz 1

1. c, 2. c, 3. d, 4. a, 5. b,  
6. d, 7. a, 8. d, 9. b, 10. a

#### Quiz 2

1. c, 2. d, 3. f, 4. h, 5. g,  
6. e, 7. j, 8. b, 9. a, 10. i

#### Quiz 3

1. throng, 2. hurl, 3. flawless, 4. prank,  
5. irate, 6. dingy, 7. tranquil, 8. plead,  
9. drowsy, 10. pact

#### Quiz 4

**Across:** 2. slumber, 5. amble, 7. feign,  
8. timid, 9. thorough

**Down:** 1. jostle, 2. scrumptious,  
3. jaunt, 4. flaunt, 6. bedlam

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Engage Minds, Inspire Discovery.™



## Word of the Week Quiz 1

Words 1-10

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

Choose the letter of the best definition for the word.

- \_\_\_\_\_1. **immense**  
a. easily frightened  
b. tiny  
c. very large; huge  
d. immediately
- \_\_\_\_\_2. **culprit**  
a. a hero  
b. silly mistake  
c. a guilty person  
d. careful
- \_\_\_\_\_3. **blunder**  
a. to speak or say  
b. to hit hard  
c. to study  
d. a silly mistake
- \_\_\_\_\_4. **strive**  
a. to try very hard  
b. to study  
c. strange or weird  
d. to obey
- \_\_\_\_\_5. **ponder**  
a. to hit hard  
b. to think about deeply  
c. to pound  
d. to try very hard
- \_\_\_\_\_6. **wallop**  
a. a wall  
b. huge  
c. to make fun of  
d. to hit hard
- \_\_\_\_\_7. **abode**  
a. a home  
b. absent  
c. clothing  
d. a joke
- \_\_\_\_\_8. **eerie**  
a. a guilty person  
b. an ear  
c. to hear  
d. weird or strange
- \_\_\_\_\_9. **utter**  
a. under  
b. to speak or say  
c. to study  
d. to tease
- \_\_\_\_\_10. **heed**  
a. to obey or listen to  
b. ahead  
c. to disobey  
d. to try hard

## Word of the Week Quiz 2

Words 11-20

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

Match the word with its definition.

- \_\_\_\_\_1. attire  
a. joyful; cheerful
- \_\_\_\_\_2. superb  
b. to scream or yell
- \_\_\_\_\_3. sliver  
c. clothing
- \_\_\_\_\_4. baffle  
d. excellent; very fine
- \_\_\_\_\_5. taunt  
e. to whisper or talk quietly
- \_\_\_\_\_6. murmur  
f. a small, thin piece
- \_\_\_\_\_7. hasty  
g. to make fun of; mock
- \_\_\_\_\_8. shriek  
h. to confuse or puzzle
- \_\_\_\_\_9. jovial  
i. to pull or haul
- \_\_\_\_\_10. lug  
j. done quickly or with little thought; fast

### Word of the Week Quiz 3

Words 21-30

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

Use the Word Bank to fill in the blank with the correct word.

#### Word Bank

dingy drowsy flawless hurl irate  
pact plead prank throng tranquil

1. A noisy \_\_\_\_\_ gathered outside the theater for the new movie's grand opening.
2. How fast did the pitcher \_\_\_\_\_ the ball for strike three?
3. The champion skater gave a \_\_\_\_\_ performance.
4. "That April Fool's Day \_\_\_\_\_ got Joe in trouble," said Jim.
5. "Mom gets \_\_\_\_\_ when I leave my homework for the last minute," said Liz.
6. Grandmother's \_\_\_\_\_ old attic held many treasures.
7. Cindy's tree house was a \_\_\_\_\_ place to relax and read.
8. "You can \_\_\_\_\_ all you want, but you can't have cookies for breakfast!" said Mom.
9. The \_\_\_\_\_ child fell asleep in the back of the car.
10. Jan and Dan made a \_\_\_\_\_ to write to one another over the summer.

### Word of the Week Quiz 4

Words 31-40

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

Solve the puzzle using the clues provided.

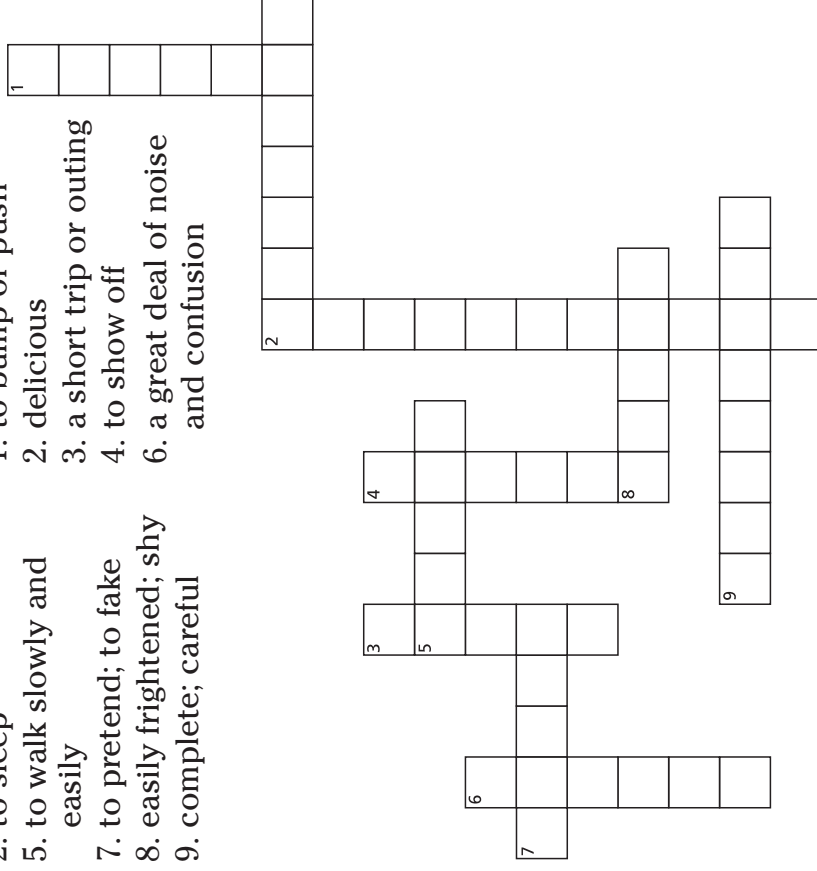
#### Word of the Week Puzzle

##### Across

2. to sleep
5. to walk slowly and easily
7. to pretend; to fake
8. easily frightened; shy
9. complete; careful

##### Down

1. to bump or push
2. delicious
3. a short trip or outing
4. to show off
6. a great deal of noise and confusion



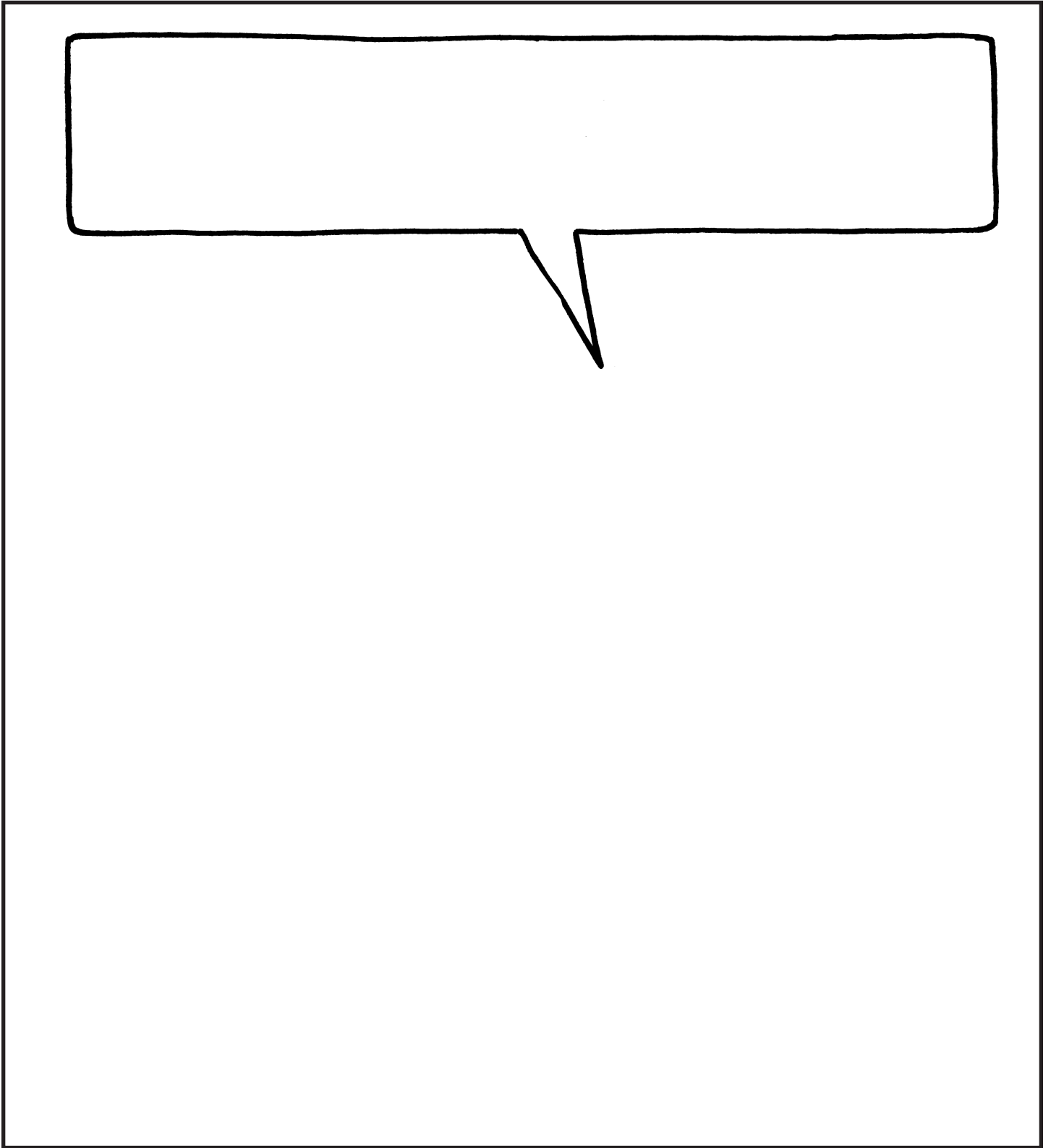
#### Word Bank

amble bedlam feign flaunt jaunty  
jostle scrumptious slumber thorough timid

**Word of the Week**  
**Make-Your-Own Cartoon**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_



word \_\_\_\_\_

definition \_\_\_\_\_