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GREAT MINDS

Spell Squad Spelling Routines

Short, effective routines for spelling instruction in grades K-2

Routines adapted from the work of Dr. Brennan Chandler.

Routine	Purpose	Time
Sound Check	Warm up phoneme awareness through listening, segmenting, and manipulating sounds.	2-3 min
Pattern Power-Up	Explicitly teach a spelling pattern, convention, or morpheme using clear examples and nonexamples.	2-3 min
Word Workout	Provide guided encoding practice with immediate corrective feedback.	3-5 min
Heart Word Heroes	Teach high-frequency words by highlighting expected and unexpected spellings.	2-3 min
Sentence Sprint	Apply spelling knowledge in sentence-level writing to support transfer.	3-5 min
Spell Streak	Build automaticity through cumulative review and retrieval practice.	1-2 min