

New Year's Word Challenge

Created by Laura Candler

Need a simple activity for the first day back to school? How about the New Year's Word Challenge? You can have students complete this alone, but it's more fun with a partner. Have them cut out the letters of "New Year's Day" and work with a buddy to find as many words as possible from those letters. Here are my rules:

- No proper nouns including names of people, places, things, etc.
- Words must be spelled correctly.
- All words have to have at least 3 letters.
- You can look up the spellings of words in the dictionary, but you can't use it to hunt for random words that you don't know!

I generally set a timer and let the kids have about 20 minutes to hunt for words. Then I have them switch papers and check to make sure the other pair has followed all the rules and that their words are spelled correctly. Sometimes I allow them to continue working 10 or 15 more minutes with a partner. Even though this is a fun activity, it's actually great for improving spelling. It's amazing how many simple words kids misspell regularly, and this activity makes them more conscious of the spellings of basic words. They begin to notice word families, suffixes, and prefixes in their hunt for new words.



Name () _____

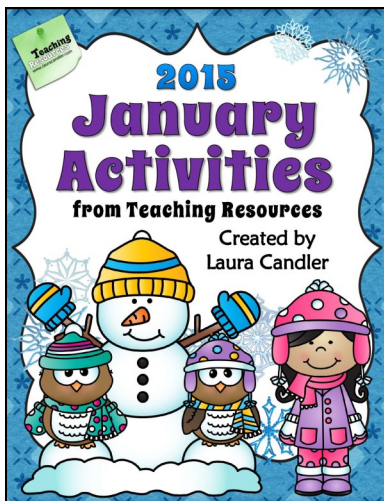
New Year's Word Challenge

How many words can you find in the letters of "Happy New Year"? Cut out the letters below and use them to help you make words. Words with a partner and take turns finding words and writing them on the lines.

1. _____	17. _____	33. _____
2. _____	18. _____	34. _____
3. _____	19. _____	35. _____
4. _____	20. _____	36. _____
5. _____	21. _____	37. _____
6. _____	22. _____	38. _____
7. _____	23. _____	39. _____
8. _____	24. _____	40. _____
9. _____	25. _____	41. _____
10. _____	26. _____	42. _____
11. _____	27. _____	43. _____
12. _____	28. _____	44. _____
13. _____	29. _____	45. _____
14. _____	30. _____	46. _____
15. _____	31. _____	47. _____
16. _____	32. _____	48. _____

H	A	P	P	Y	N
E	W	Y	E	A	R

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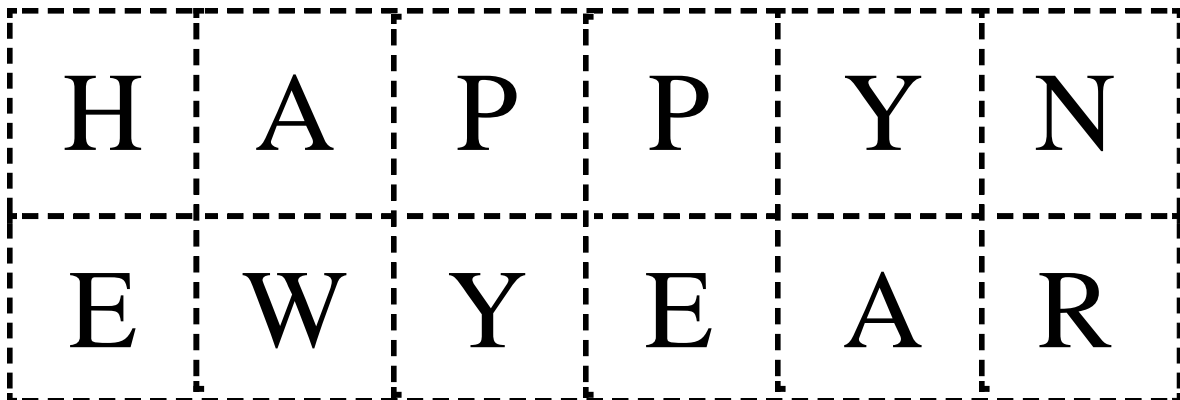
This activity is a sample from my **January Activities Packet** which is available on TeachersPayTeachers.com.

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How many words can you find in the letters of "Happy New Year"? Cut out the letters below and use them to help you make words. Work with a partner and take turns finding words and writing them on the lines.

- | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 17. _____ | 33. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 18. _____ | 34. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 19. _____ | 35. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 20. _____ | 36. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 21. _____ | 37. _____ |
| 6. _____ | 22. _____ | 38. _____ |
| 7. _____ | 23. _____ | 39. _____ |
| 8. _____ | 24. _____ | 40. _____ |
| 9. _____ | 25. _____ | 41. _____ |
| 10. _____ | 26. _____ | 42. _____ |
| 11. _____ | 27. _____ | 43. _____ |
| 12. _____ | 28. _____ | 44. _____ |
| 13. _____ | 29. _____ | 45. _____ |
| 14. _____ | 30. _____ | 46. _____ |
| 15. _____ | 31. _____ | 47. _____ |
| 16. _____ | 32. _____ | 48. _____ |





Teaching Resources
www.lauracandler.com

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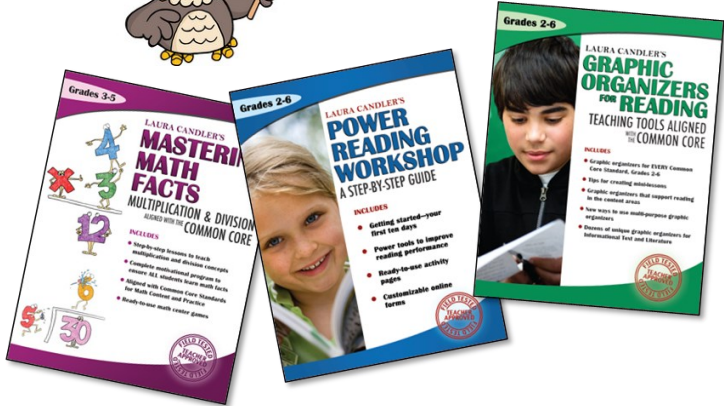
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