- students are re-tested on the same words. Anyone who has a perfect score on all the unit tests and keeps his cup empty wins a Pepsi! Give a Pepsi also for perfect scores on review tests.
- 18. Spelling Puzzles- Write the spelling words on different colors of tag board. Cut the words apart in a variety of ways. The students then put the puzzle back together to form the spelling words.
- 19. Q-Tip Eraser- Write the spelling words on the chalkboard. The students then erase the words by tracing over them again and again with a Q-tip until the words are erased.
- 20. Block Puzzles- The teacher strings together wooden block beads. Write the spelling words on the top of the cubes, fill in the other sides with other letters. Attach a tag to the end of the string of blocks and write the spelling words on it. The student turns the blocks to reproduce the spelling word.
- 21. Spelling Bingo- The teacher gives a blank bingo card for a fun activity to take the place of your traditional pretest. As the teacher reads each word, students write it in a space of their choice. After giving all the words, I call words randomly until someone calls, "BINGO!" The winner must say the correctly spelled words that gave him the win.
- 22. Spelling Dice- The teacher writes the weekly spelling words on dice made from inverted milk cartons. The student rolls the dice and whatever the dice lands on they write 5 times.
- 23. Musical Words- A word skill game that is played like musical chairs. The teacher places the spelling words on small pieces of paper in a large box or bag. The children sit in a circle, and start passing the box around while music plays. Whoever has the container when the music stops must pick out the paper and read the word. If he can't, he is out. Continue to play until there is only one person left.
- 24. Transparency Show Off- The teacher makes a transparency of regular lined paper. The students practice writing their spelling words on the transparency. The students then show off their work on the overhead projector for all to see.
- 25. Individual Chalkboards- Have the students practice writing their spelling words on small chalkboards. They love it!
- 26. Tissue Paper Tracing- The teacher writes the weekly spelling words on a large piece of paper. The students then place tissue paper over the words and trace over them with crayon.
- 27. Wooden Flash cards- Try using pieces of wood as flash cards. The students enjoy the change!
- 28. Contact Paper Chalkboards- The teacher needs to make 5" x 7" cardboard pieces, cover half the cardboard with the special chalkboard contact paper. (You can also do this with chalkboard paint!) Then write the spelling word on the other half. The students look at the word and then copy it on the chalkboard side.
- 29. Magnetic Cookie Sheet- The teacher arranges assorted magnet letters on a cookie sheet. Students use the letters to form the weekly spelling words.
- 30. Overhead Posters- The teacher makes a transparency of the weekly spelling words. The list is then shown on the wall. A piece of butcher paper is taped to the wall. The student then traces the spelling words onto the butcher paper.
- 31. Hold It- Young children often find it difficult to hold a handful of cards while playing "Go Fish!" These card holders are really simple to make and really do the job! Place two plastic lids (Cool Whip lids work great!), flat sides together. Place a button in the center on each side, and sew the entire unit together with strong string or dental floss. Children slip cards between the two lids and hold the card holder. The game is played just like "Go Fish!" by using a pair of cards for each spelling word.
- 32. Typewriter Fun- Have the students write their spelling words ten times each on the typewriter. (Or try it on your classroom computer. If you're brave you can use your graphics software! Kid Pix is perfect for this.)
- 33. Paint Your Words- Have the students use small paint brushes to paint their words 5 times each.
- 34. Soft Flash cards- Use wall paper scraps to make unusual flash cards to practice the words.
- 35. Carbon Paper Practice- Have the students use carbon paper (yes, remember that stuff?) to help them write their words. I got some old NCR scraps from a printer that worked great and was a lot less messy. The best part: it was free!
- 36. Close pin Spelling- The teacher cuts out articles of clothing, from construction paper. The spelling words are then written on the articles of clothing. The students then reproduce the spelling words by hanging them on the clothes line with clothespins that have the letters written on them.