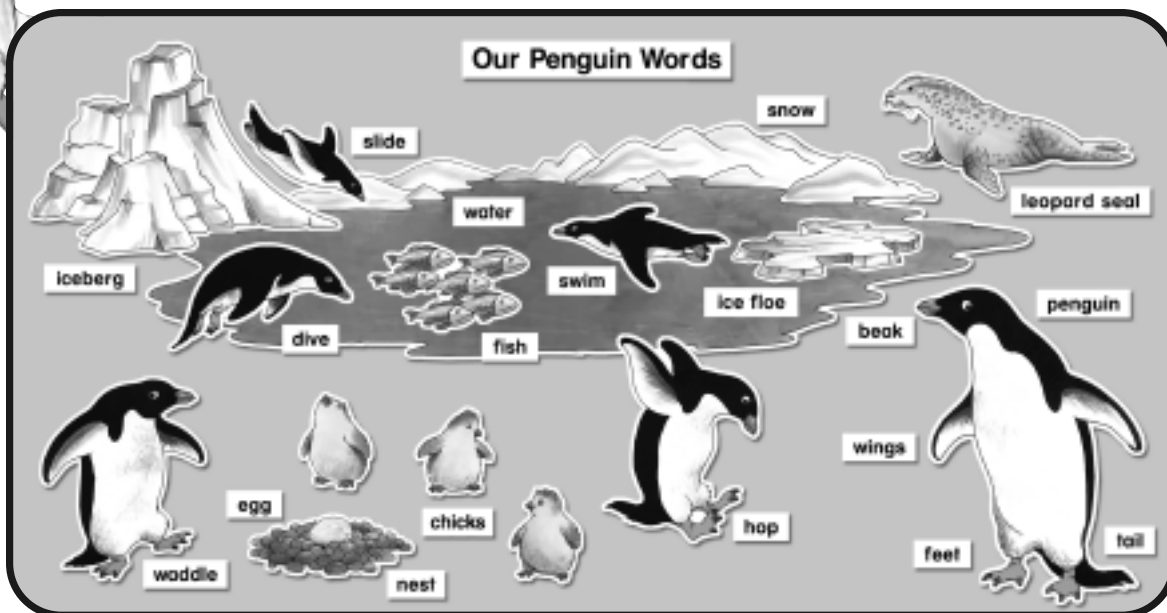




# PENGUINS



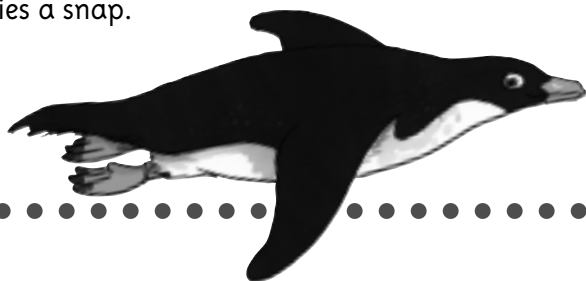
**P**enguins are a perennial favorite with children, who are captivated by their tuxedo coats, adorable chicks, and icy habitat. **WORD WALL BULLETIN BOARD: PENGUINS** pulls together a rookery of penguin words and pictures and puts them at your fingertips. This ready-to-go word wall makes it easy to teach 19 must-know words that support thematic learning and build skills in the crucial areas of reading, writing, spelling, and speaking.



## SETTING UP YOUR WORD WALL

Punch out the picture and word cards and arrange them on a bulletin board—that's all it takes to get your word wall ready to go!

**TIP:** Consider mounting the picture and word cards with removable wall adhesive or Velcro® fasteners; this will make removing cards for off-the-wall activities a snap.



## SKILL-BUILDING WORD WALL ACTIVITIES

Your word wall bulletin board is designed for flexible use. Seize opportunities to gather students around it for literacy-building group work, and also encourage children to borrow the words and pictures for independent use such as story writing. Finding fun and creative ways to play with the cards will help children add these key words to their budding vocabularies, as well as to become more fluent readers and automatic spellers. On the following page are some great ideas to get you started.

## ★ Penguins on the Move

Introduce verbs with a movement activity that turns your classroom into a penguin-packed polar region. Divide the class into five groups. Assign each group one of the penguin movement word cards (*dive, waddle, slide, hop, swim*). Give children time to practice moving like penguins, then gather them around the bulletin board. Next, have each group act out the movement, while the class guesses the word.

## ★ Polar Puzzlers

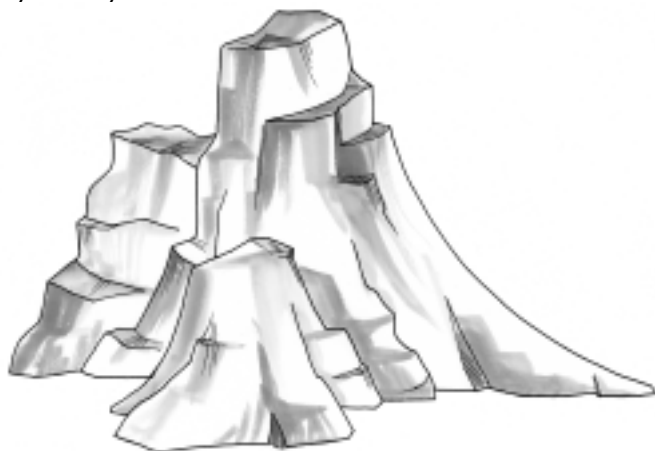
This “I Spy” game invites wordplay on many levels. Play it anytime to encourage awareness of word parts, vowel sounds, and more. Start by secretly selecting a favorite word from the wall. Ask children

to guess your word by posing questions about it. For example, they might ask, “Does it have more than five letters?” or “Does it have a short *i* sound in it?”

When children think they know what the word is, have them copy it from the word wall and show you. If a child is correct, let that child take a turn. Keep giving clues until someone guesses the word.

## ★ Add S!

Give students sticky-notes and invite them to take turns adding the letter *s* to the words on the bulletin board. Keep in mind that sometimes the *s* will make a noun plural (*penguins*), while other times it will shift the conjugation of a verb (*swims*). Discuss how the words change in appearance and meaning. Ask if an *s* can be added to all of the words and discuss why or why not.



## OFF-THE-WALL ACTIVITIES

Extend your word wall with activities that let children take the word and picture cards off the wall to learn more.

### ★ Match Game

Remove all the word cards from the bulletin board, but leave the pictures there. Challenge teams or individual students to match each word with its corresponding picture. For added fun, set an egg timer and see if children can complete the task in a designated time frame.

**TIP:** This activity works best if the cards are affixed to the bulletin board with Velcro®.

### ★ Penguin Word Chain

This challenging game really inspires children to notice features of words and make connections between words. Gather children around the bulletin board. Take down the word card for *penguin* and place it face up in front of children.

(**TIP:** It will be helpful if you have a chalkboard tray nearby to hold cards as they come down.)

Ask if anyone can find a word on the board that is like the word *penguin* in some way. A child might suggest the word *iceberg*, because both words have seven letters. Have this child take that word off the board and place it next to the word *penguin*. Next, invite another child to suggest a word card that is like *iceberg*. For example, *ice floe* has the same little word in it (*ice*). Keep going, trying to add every word to your penguin word chain. Encourage creativity!

### ★ Penguin Sort

Invite students to notice the different kinds of words on the word wall with an independent sorting activity. Label three envelopes “Polar Animals,” “Polar Things,” and “Things Penguins Do.” Let children work with partners to sort the word cards into the envelopes. Stimulate storytelling by asking children to take one card out of each envelope and use the cards to create a mini-story.