

## Alphabetic Word Walls

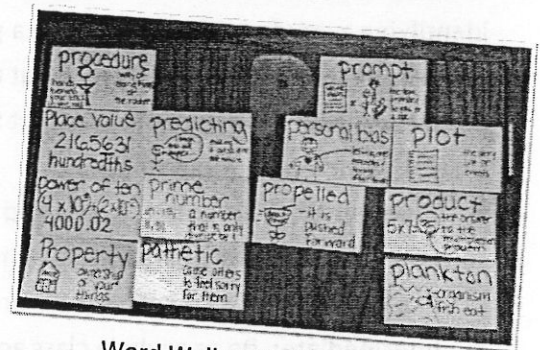
- **Simple Font** – In primary classrooms, choose a font that is very simple (Arial, Calibri, Comic Sans, Century Gothic, Helvetica) for early readers and writers.
- **Color Coding** – *Color coding* parts of speech can be helpful for students. To do this, place nouns and verbs on a different color card or print the words in a different color font (e.g., red = verbs, blue = nouns, green = adjectives)
- **Readability**
  - **Font size** – Walk across the classroom and make certain students can read the words easily enough to copy them (suggested minimum font size is 120 or 150). If you can't read them, neither can your students.
  - **Overcrowding Words** – Try not to overcrowd the words. If there are too many words in too little space, it makes individual words hard to see, read, and copy. You may want to categorize words and create more “portable” Word Walls if you have this issue. See more ideas below.



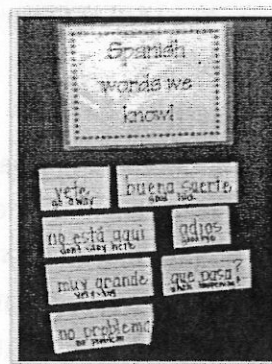
Color Coded Word Wall

## More than just your Alphabetical Word Wall!

- **Nonlinguistic Word Walls:** Word walls with images, pictographs, & symbols go a long way toward cementing the visual image with word.
- **Portable Word Walls:** Think about having separate areas or creating “portable” word walls for categorizes or groups of words. The list below includes examples for smaller, more focused words walls.
  - **Phonic Patterns**
  - **Spelling, Word Family, and Rhyming Patterns**
  - **Content/Topical/Thematic Word Walls**
  - **Words We Know**
  - **Prefixes, Suffixes, and Root Words**
  - **Words from Read Alouds**
  - **Spanish/English Word Walls**



Word Walls with Pictographs



Spanish/English Word Walls

"The Word Wall is built upon the spiral theory of mastery—repetition reinforces previously learned content. Regular use throughout the school year allows you to recycle many words." Joseph Green in *The Word Wall: Teaching Vocabulary through Immersion*