

want students to write more not necessarily spend time looking up words in the dictionary. So what can you do? Conduct a mini-lesson specific to first-draft and journal spelling and create an anchor chart that includes procedures for first-draft spelling that may include the follow procedures listed below.

### First-Draft and Journal Writing – “I’m Stuck” Strategies

- Look around the room for the word – charts, word walls, my vocabulary journal
- Ask a friend (in a quiet voice)
- Sound out the sounds and write what your hear
- Spell it as best you can and highlight or circle the word to look it up later
- Listen for words parts – suffixes, prefixes, endings, roots
- Think of a rhyming word that you do know how to spell
- Try out different spellings

### Final Copy Writing

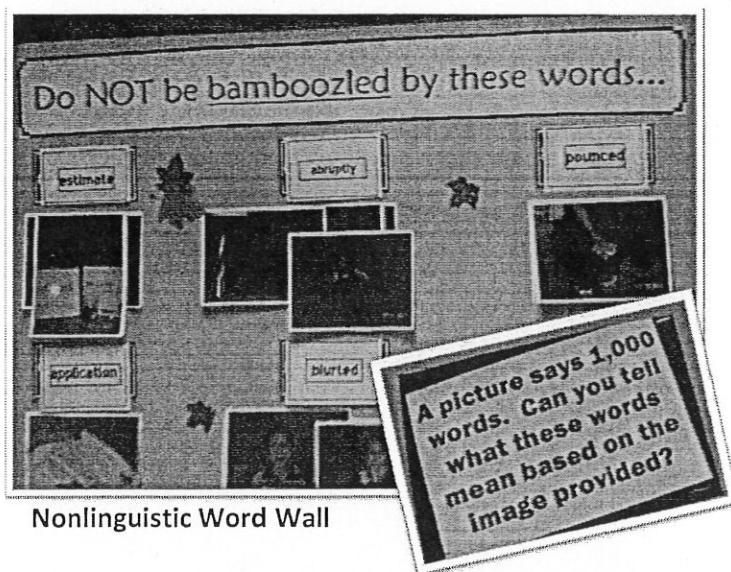
- Double-check correct spelling by looking up the word in an online dictionary or classroom dictionary.

### This and That

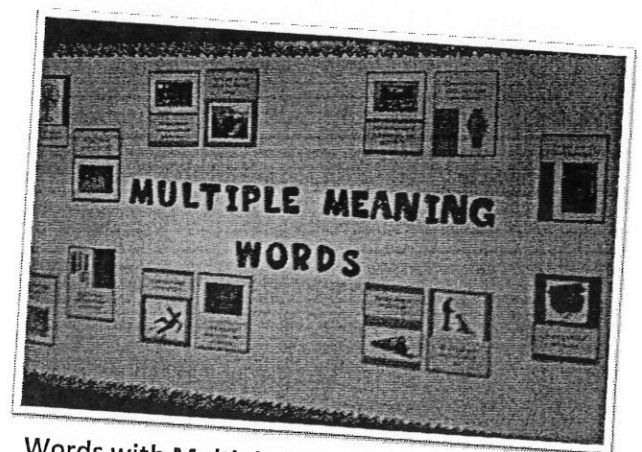
- **To laminate or not to laminate?** While we all want things to last, the power of Word Walls lies in the *making, using, and reviewing* words with your students. Additionally, classroom lights often create a glare on laminated words making them unreadable depending on where students are seated. Consider printing or handwriting words with your students and then post them without the time-consuming, and more costly, step of laminating.
- **Review and Play Games** – Don’t forget to review the words on Word Walls around the room. Play games and word-hunt activities to keep students using the words and becoming aware of subtle nuances of how to use each word in context. For example, throw a Nerf ball to a student and ask him/her to find two words to describe how you would feel if you had just made the winning basket at the basketball game.

### Extend Word Walls to the Hallways! (And you thought Word Walls were just for classrooms!)

- Hallways are a great place to extend word learning for students. Be creative. Try using pictures of students acting out words (see example below) for a nonlinguistic word wall. Look at these great examples!



Nonlinguistic Word Wall



Words with Multiple Meanings

A special “shout out” to Pam Hardy (Principal), Ben Markley (Assistant Principal), and the great teachers at Garden City Elementary School (Indianapolis, IN) for the hard work you’ve done to advance word learning with your students *and* for these great examples of word walls!