

Lesson Plan

Lesson: Contractions ('ve, 're)

Lesson Length: 45 minutes

Age or Grade Level Intended: 1st grade

Academic Standards: English 1.6.4 Identify and correctly write contractions.

Performance objectives: Given a list of around 6 phrases (such as you are, they have, we have, they are, etc) students will write a sentence using the appropriate contraction.

Assessment: On Thursday, students will be given an assessment in which contractions will be assessed.

Advance Preparation by Teacher: Obtain enough copies of assessment for each student; get out student's writing notebooks.

Procedure:

Introduction/Motivation: Have students gather in the theater area. Tell students that we are going to learn about contractions, which are those funny words that have the apostrophes in them.

Step-by-Step Plan:

1. Explain to students that sometimes when we speak or write, it is easier if we shorten what we are trying to say. Explain that it is kind of like our names. Even though our real name might be Abigail, it is shorter and easier to say Abby. Explain to students that this is sort of like what happens in contractions.
2. Write the words "they" and "are" on the overhead. Tell students that a lot of times instead of saying something like "They are going to the park", we say "They're going to the park". Write the word "they're" on the overhead.
3. Tell students that when we make a contraction, we push two words together and one or more of the letters get squeezed out. The letters that get squeezed out are replaced by an apostrophe. Ask students which letter got replaced by the apostrophe in "they're".
4. Give students the example of "we" and "are" becoming "we're".

5. Write the words “you” and “are” on the overhead. Ask students to come up with the contraction.
6. Point out that the first word in a contraction never gets changed. It is only the second word that gets changed.
7. Write the words “I” and “have” on the overhead. Explain to students that when the second word of the contraction is “have”, 2 letters get replaced by the apostrophe (the “h” and the “a”). Write the word “I’ve”.
8. Write the words “we” and “have” on the overhead. Ask students to identify the contraction that is made from these two words.
9. Have students return to their desks and get out their writer’s notebooks. Write the following phrases on the board:

You are	We have
We are	They have
They are	I have

Have students write a sentence for each of the phrases, but using the correct contraction.

Closure: At the end of writer’s workshop, review with students the correct writing of the “ve” and “re” contractions.