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Titles in the Jossey-Bass Education Book of Lists Series

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# The Elementary Teacher's Book of Lists 

Gary Robert Muschla, Judith A. Muschla, and Erin Muschla

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Published by Jossey-Bass
A Wiley Imprint
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## Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Muschla, Gary Robert.
The elementary teacher's book of lists / Gary Robert Muschla, Judith A. Muschla, Erin Muschla.
p. cm. - (J-b ed: book of lists ; 65)

ISBN 978-0-470-50198-6 (pbk.), 978-0-470-90501-2 (ebk.), 978-0-470-90502-9 (ebk.), 978-0-470-90503-6 (ebk.)
1.Elementary school teaching-Handbooks, manuals, etc. 2. Education, Elementary-Curricula-Handbooks, manuals, etc. I. Muschla, Judith A. II. Muschla, Erin. III. Title.

LB1555.M865 2010
372.11—dc22

2010032372

## About This Book

Although teaching any grade or subject is demanding, teaching in the elementary grades is particularly challenging. If you are like most elementary teachers, you are responsible for teaching more than one subject, you teach students whose abilities and personalities vary widely, and you are held accountable for student performance on several standardized tests. Add to this your daily routines of effectively managing a classroom of energetic children as well as interacting with colleagues, administrators, and parents and guardians, and your day is full.
Written for classroom teachers of grades K-5, The Elementary Teacher's Book of Lists is designed to provide you with information on a wide range of topics that you can use to enhance your lessons, manage your classroom responsibilities, and create an environment in which learning flourishes. The book contains 273 lists, divided into six sections:

- Section 1: Reading (41 lists)
- Section 2: Writing (59 lists)
- Section 3: Mathematics (63 lists)
- Section 4: Science (50 lists)
- Section 5: Social Studies (35 lists)
- Section 6: General Reference for Elementary Teachers (25 lists)
The lists serve a variety of purposes. You may find many suitable to use as reproducibles to support your instruction, and you may use others for background information on specific topics or to generate supplementary materials for your students. Each list is written in clear, easy-to-read language, and may be used with students of various grades and abilities, enabling you to utilize the materials in a
manner that best satisfies your students' needs. Every list concludes with a "Did you know?" that offers one last fact or observation about the information presented in the list. Finally, where applicable, the lists are cross-referenced so that you can refer to related lists to expand topics and provide additional information.
We trust the lists that follow will provide you with useful information, support you in planning and instruction, and help you to manage your school day more effectively. Our best wishes to you for a wonderful year.

Gary Robert Muschla
Judith A. Muschla
Erin Muschla

## About the Authors

Gary Robert Muschla received his BA and MAT from Trenton State College and taught in Spotswood, New Jersey, for more than twenty-five years at the elementary school level. He is a successful author and a member of the Authors Guild and the National Writers Association.
In addition to math resources, Gary has written several resources for English and writing teachers, among them Writing Workshop Survival Kit (1993; second edition, 2005); The Writing Teacher's Book of Lists (1991; second edition, 2004); Ready-to Use Reading Proficiency Lessons and Activities, 10th Grade Level (2003); Ready-to-Use Reading Proficiency Lessons and Activities, 8th Grade Level (2002); Ready-to-Use Reading Proficiency Lessons and Activities, 4th Grade Level (2002); Reading Workshop Survival Kit (1997); and English Teacher's Great Books Activities Kit (1994), all published by Jossey-Bass.
Judith A. Muschla received her BA in mathematics from Douglass College at Rutgers University and is certified to teach K-12. She taught mathematics in South River, New Jersey, for more than twenty-five years at various levels at both South River High School and South River Middle School. As a team leader at the middle school, she wrote several math curricula, coordinated interdisciplinary units, and conducted mathematics workshops for teachers and parents. She has also served as a member of the state Review Panel for New Jersey's Mathematics Core Curriculum Content Standards.
Together, Judith and Gary Muschla have coauthored several math books published by Jossey-Bass: Hands-on Math Projects with Real-Life Applications, Grades 3-5 (2009); The Math Teacher's Problem-a-Day, Grades 4-8
(2008); Hands-on Math Projects with Real-Life Applications, Grades 6-12 (1996; second edition, 2006); The Math Teacher's Book of Lists (1995; second edition, 2005); Math Games: 180 Reproducible Activities to Motivate, Excite, and Challenge Students, Grades 6-12 (2004); Algebra Teacher's Activities Kit (2003); Math Smart! Over 220 Ready-to-Use Activities to Motivate and Challenge Students, Grades 6-12 (2002); Geometry Teacher's Activities Kit (2000); and Math Starters! 5- to 10-Minute Activities to Make Kids Think, Grades 6-12 (1999).
Erin Muschla received her BS and MEd from The College of New Jersey. She is certified to teach grades K-8 with mathematics specialization in grades $5-8$ and also social studies K-12. She currently teaches math at Applegarth Middle School in Monroe, New Jersey. She coauthored, with Judith and Gary Muschla, the Math Teacher's Survival Guide, Grades 5-12 (2010), published by Jossey-Bass.

## Acknowledgments

We thank Jeff Gorman, Assistant Superintendent of Monroe Township Public Schools, for his support of this project.
We also thank Chari Chanley, Principal of Applegarth Middle School in Monroe, for her encouragement.
Thanks to Dr. Brenda Leake, Professor of Elementary Education at The College of New Jersey, for her dedication to continuing education and the inspiration she imparts to her students.
We especially thank Kate Bradford, our editor at JosseyBass, for her guidance and suggestions from the initial concept of this book through its writing and publication.
Thanks also to Diane Turso for proofreading and making the final corrections to this book.
And finally, we thank the many colleagues who have supported and encouraged us over the years, and the many students whom we have had the pleasure of teaching.

## Section 1

## Reading

The ability to read predicts a student's future success not only in school but in life as well. Reading is the foundation for all other subjects and disciplines. It opens the doors to countless discoveries and opportunities.

## List 1.1 Long Vowels and Spellings

Vowels are speech sounds that typically form the central sound of syllables. The letters $a, e, i, o, u$, and sometimes $y$ represent the main vowels in the English alphabet. The following list contains common spellings of those sounds and example words.
The long a /ā/ has several spellings, including:
a: lady, basic, vacation
ai: main, claim, wait
ay: say, play, maybe
a-consonant-e: ate, name, space
ei: eight, neighbor, freight
ey: hey, prey, they
The long e /ē/ has several spellings, including:
e: we, me, she
ea: east, weak, flea
ee: see, keep, knee
e-consonant-e: these, complete, concrete
ie: field, brief, piece
i-consonant-e: police, routine, vaccine
y: memory, scary, very
The long i /i/ has several spellings, including:
i: idea, title, lion
igh: might, sigh, highway
i-consonant-e: fire, five, wide
ey: eye, eyelid, eyesight
uy: buy, guy, buyer
y: try, cycle, reply
The long o /ō/ has several spellings, including:
o: go, hello, open
oa: coat, goal, oak
ow: owe, snow, bowl
o-consonant-e: hope, nose, spoke
The long $\mathbf{u} / \overline{\mathrm{u}} /$ has several spellings, including:
u: pupil, menu, human
ue: fuel, value, rescue
eau: beauty, beautiful, beautician
u-consonant-e: use, cube, confuse
Did you know? Students who are well versed in phonics tend to be competent readers.

See List 1.2, Short Vowels and Spellings; List 1.3, Special Vowel Sounds and Spellings; List 1.4, Vowels and a Final E.

## List 1.2 Short Vowels and Spellings

Unlike long vowel sounds that sound like the letters they represent, short vowel sounds are not as distinct. Most young students easily recognize the long /ā/ in ate, yet many have trouble recognizing the short /ī/ sound in drink
as opposed to the short / $\mathrm{u} /$ sound in cup. The following list can add some clarity.
Short a /ă/: pass, at, after, that, man, stand Short e /ě/: end, gem, held, help, went, kept
Note: The short e sound may also be spelled ea as in bread and ai as in said.
Short i/i/: will, miss, into, sip, big, thin
Short o /ǒ/: body, hot, rock, stop, clock, top
Short u /ŭ/: under, up, study, jump, sun, much
Note: The short u may also be spelled $\mathbf{o}$ as in mother.
Did you know? Most short vowel sounds are spelled with one letter.

See List 1.1, Long Vowels and Spellings; List 1.3, Special Vowel Sounds and Spellings; List 1.4, Vowels and a Final E.

## List 1.3 Special Vowel Sounds and Spellings

When they think of vowel sounds, most students think of long vowel sounds and short vowel sounds. There are others. Depending on dialect, English has about twenty distinct vowel sounds. Some of the most common of these other vowel sounds are shown in the following list.

## Vowels Affected by $R$

The /âr/ sound has several spellings, including:
ar: vary
are: spare
air: flair
The /är/ sound is often spelled ar: far
The /îr/ sound has several spellings, including:
ear: near
eer: cheer
er: serious
ier: pierce
The /ôr/ sound can be spelled:
ar: warm
or: force
The /ûr/ sound has several spellings, including:
er: herd
ear: search
ir: sir
ur: burst
or: world
Diphthongs
The /oi/ sound can be spelled:
oi: oil
oy: boy
The /ou/ sound can be spelled:
ou: out
ow: plow
Double O Sounds
The $/ \overline{\mathrm{OO}} /$ sound can be spelled:

## 00: soon

u: truth
The / oo/ sound can be spelled:
00: good
u: put

## Broad O

The /ô/ sound has several spellings, including:
o: long
al: false
au: author
aw: saw

