# INTRODUCTION

The Daily Warm-Ups series is a wonderful way to turn extra classroom minutes into valuable learning time. The 180 quick activities in this book practise critical-thinking skills in English, Maths, Social Studies, Science and Life Skills.

Using the English exercises, students will analyse why groups of words are spelled certain ways; make words with given suffixes and prefixes; and examine passages from important texts. Maths exercises require students to create their own word problems and to classify objects according to size and weight. Social studies exercises focus on history, religion and world cultures, as well as geography, globalisation and personal history. Science exercises tackle questions regarding climate change, the effects of chemicals on plants, and more. The life skills section gets students to think about what they would do in certain situations, such as in an earthquake, or at home alone. These questions also present ethical dilemmas for students to consider, such as what to do if a friend is depressed, or what to do if you get into a car with someone and then realise they have been drinking.

These daily activities may be used at the very beginning of class to get students into learning mode, near the end of class to make good educational use of that transitional time, in the middle of class to shift gears between lessons, or whenever else you have minutes that now go unused. However you choose to use them, Daily Warm-Ups are a convenient and useful supplement to your regular lesson plans. Make every minute of your class time count!

## English

### A Spelling Rule Worth Learning

English spelling is often irregular. However, there is one spelling rule that covers a great many words and is almost 100 per cent reliable. The rule has to do with whether a word's stressed vowel is long or short.

So, if you know how to pronounce a word, the rule will help you spell it correctly. All of the words in the list below follow the rule.

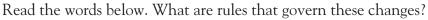| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| ban | boggle | hidden | pinning | tip |
| bane | bogus | hide | tap | tipping |
| bet | den | pin | tape | |
| better | dentist | pine | tapping | |
| bog | hid | pining | | |

What is the rule? Can you think of other words not on the list that follow the rule? Can you think of any English words that do not follow the rule?
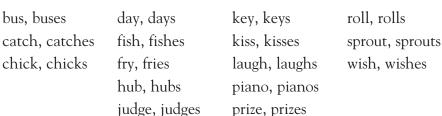
## English

### Spelling Plurals and Third Persons

Most English nouns add an *s* when they change from singular to plural. So do most verbs when they change from the simple form to the third person. But sometimes the suffix added is pronounced *ez* or *iz* and spelled *es*. Words that end in y sometimes **change the y to ie and sometimes don't**.

Read the words below. What are rules that govern these changes?

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| bus, buses | day, days | key, keys | roll, rolls |
| catch, catches | fish, fishes | kiss, kisses | sprout, sprouts |
| chick, chicks | fry, fries | laugh, laughs | wish, wishes |
| | hub, hubs | piano, pianos | |
| | judge, judges | prize, prizes | |

## Maths

### Big Numbers, Small Numbers I

Arrange the numbers below in order from smallest to largest. Use a calculator if you wish.

$3.5 \times 10^9$       $6.28 \times 10^7$

1,000,000       8,765,243,778,625

128       $9.9838 \times 10^7$

$9\frac{3}{4}$       0.3333

$4.08 \times 10^{-4}$       0.000832

0       $\frac{1}{7}$

76,922       $\frac{1}{3000}$

## Maths

### Big Numbers, Small Numbers II

Arrange the numbers below in order from smallest to largest. Use a calculator if you wish.

$\frac{91}{635}$      $\frac{96}{209}$      $\frac{21}{62}$

$\frac{13}{41}$      $\frac{450}{463}$      $\frac{24}{407}$

0      $\frac{91}{635}$      $\frac{67}{302}$

1      $\frac{627}{797}$

$\frac{59}{180}$

## 67 Here's the Headline, You Write the Story I

The headline of a news story summarises it in a few words. If you want to find out the details, you have to read the story. The equation for a word problem is like the headline of a news story.

Here's an example.

Equation: $5x + 10 = 35$

Word problem: Marcia's employer paid her $35, her pay for working 5 hours plus $10 for some things that she bought for him at the shops. How much did Marcia get paid per hour?

Here's the headline: $15 \times 20 - 14 \times 19 = x$. You write the story.

## 68 Here's the Headline, You Write the Story II

The headline of a news story summarises it in a few words. If you want to find out the details, you have to read the story. The equation for a word problem is like the headline of a news story.

Here's an example.

Equation: $5x + 10 = 35$

Word problem: Marcia's employer paid her $35, her pay for working 5 hours plus $10 for some things that she bought for him at the shops. How much did Marcia get paid per hour?

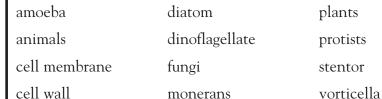Here's the headline: $x - 4 \times 9.95 - 1.99 = \$8.21$. You write the story.

## Science

### Biological Word Sort I

Sort the words below into groups. Label each group.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| amoeba | diatom | plants |
| animals | dinoflagellate | protists |
| cell membrane | fungi | stentor |
| cell wall | monerans | vorticella |
| cytoplasm | nucleus | |

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## Science

### Biological Word Sort II

Sort the words below into groups. Label each group.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| AIDS | mildew | spores |
| athlete's foot | mould | tetanus |
| bacteria | monerans | virus |
| flu | mushroom | yeast |
| food poisoning | penicillin | yoghurt |
| fungus | polio | |
| German measles | ringworm | |

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