Consonant Pairs \textit{ng}, \textit{nk}, \textit{ph}, \textit{wh}

- \textbf{Generalization} Some words have two consonants that blend together: \textit{among}, \textit{think}. Some words have two consonants that are said as one sound: \textit{graph}, \textit{wheel}.

\textbf{Word Sort} Sort the list words by their consonant pair.

\textbf{Spelling Words}

1. Thanksgiving
2. among
3. think
4. blank
5. graph
6. young
7. wheel
8. nephew
9. belong
10. whiskers
11. whisper
12. elephant
13. white
14. shrink
15. wharf
16. trunk
17. strong
18. blink
19. chunk
20. skunk

\textbf{Home Activity} Your child is learning to spell words with \textit{ng}, \textit{nk}, \textit{ph}, and \textit{wh}. Ask your child to circle list words that have two consonants that stand for one sound.
Horse Heroes

Horses have played a major role in human history. They have done important work for us, such as delivering packages before the days of trains and automobiles. Horses have been our companions, joining us on adventures through dangerous lands. When movies were invented, horses became stars of the screen, entertaining us as four-legged actors. Some horses and their riders have made such a mark on our history, their names will be remembered for years to come.

Activity

Ask your family members how they think life would be different if you had to depend on a horse for all your travel. Make a list of the ways using a horse, and taking care of one, would change your day-to-day activities.

Comprehension Skill

Fact and Opinion

A statement of fact can be proved true or false. A statement of opinion cannot be proved true or false, because it expresses a belief or a judgment.

Activity

That’s Your Opinion Read a short article aloud together. After every statement, stop to discuss whether it is a statement of fact or opinion. If it is a statement of fact, discuss what sources you could use to prove the statement true or false.
Words to Know
Knowing the meaning of these words is important to reading *Horse Heroes*. Practice using these words.

Vocabulary Words
- **ambition**: strong desire to achieve; will to succeed
- **infested**: covered by something harmful or offensive
- **landslide**: the rapid slipping of a relatively dry mass of earth and rock
- **quicksand**: a bog of very deep, wet sand that sucks down objects, people, or animals
- **resistance**: the act of working against or actively opposing or withstanding
- **rickety**: likely to break or fall apart; shaky
- **roamed**: moved or traveled without purpose or plan
- **vast**: very great in size

Singular Possessive Nouns
A **singular possessive noun** is a singular noun that shows ownership. For example: Lisa’s shoes are green. The dog’s ears are floppy. “Lisa’s” and “dog’s” are singular possessive nouns. Singular possessive nouns are formed by adding –’s to the end of the noun. It does not matter whether or not the noun already ends in s. For example: the table’s legs, Tess’s toy.

Activity
**Whose Is This?** Together, take a walk around your house. Point to items that belong to a certain member of the family. In a notebook, fill in the following sentence for each item you see: The ____ is _____. For example: The book is Kari’s.

Practice Tested Spelling Words

Family Times DVD•91
**Fact and Opinion**

- A **statement of fact** can be proved true or false. You can look in a reference book, ask an expert, or use your own knowledge and experience.

- A **statement of opinion** cannot be proved true or false. It is a belief or a judgment. It often contains a word of judgment, such as *best, should,* or *beautiful.* It may begin with the words *In my opinion* or *I believe.*

**Directions** Read the following passage. Then answer the questions below.

When many people take a safari in Africa, they are excited to see lions. Zebras, however, are much more interesting. Zebras are exciting, graceful relatives of horses. While their stripes make them beautiful, they also provide protection. Lions hunt zebras for food, but because lions are color-blind, the zebras’ stripes make them difficult to see. The herd is camouflaged in the tall, wavy grass.

If hyenas attack, the herd encircles the young zebras. The stallion fights the predators bravely. Young females will “flirt” with stallions from nearby herds. The female’s father, however, is protective. A young stallion must prove himself by challenging her father to a contest of strength and fighting skill. If the young stallion wins, he takes his new mate home to his herd. Clearly, besides being the bravest, most beautiful animals in Africa, zebras are also the most romantic!

1. Is the second sentence a fact or an opinion? How can you tell?

2. The third sentence contains both fact and opinion. Which phrase is the fact?

3. Is the fifth sentence a fact or an opinion? How can you tell?

4. Is the seventh sentence a fact or an opinion? How can you tell?

**Home Activity** Your child identified statements of fact and opinion an a short paragraph. Read a letter to the editor from the newspaper with your child. Ask your child to tell you when he or she reads an opinion. Ask your child to explain why it is an opinion rather than a fact.

**DVD•92 Comprehension**
Main Idea and Details

Directions  Read the article. Then answer the questions below.

In 1798, a ship left Australia carrying an unusual creature. Scientists in England opened the crate carrying the body of the animal and were shocked. They were looking at a platypus, but some of them believed it was a joke. What mammal has fur, a duck’s bill, and webbed feet? One scientist checked to see if the platypus was sewn together like some strange doll. After two centuries, science is even more surprised by this small animal that may be the most unusual on Earth.

Platypuses seem to have traits borrowed from other animals. When attacked, males use claws on their hind legs to inject painful venom like that of a snake. The platypus is the only mammal that hunts by sensing electricity given off by its prey’s body, like a shark. It doesn’t give birth to live young, but lays eggs like a bird or reptile. Despite years of study, the platypus remains a mystery to scientists.

1. In one or two words, what are all of the sentences about?

2. What is the main idea of the passage?

3. What is one supporting detail that tells more about the main idea?

4. What is another supporting detail for the main idea?

5. On a separate sheet of paper, write a summary of the passage in one or two sentences.
Singular Possessive Nouns

Directions Make each sentence less wordy by replacing the underlined words with a possessive noun phrase. Write the new sentences.

1. The horses used by Tschiffely were bold and daring. ____________________________
   ____________________________

2. The mountains of Peru were difficult to cross. ____________________________
   ____________________________

3. The horses knew about the threat of a crocodile. ____________________________
   ____________________________

4. The snakes of South America can be very dangerous. ____________________________
   ____________________________

5. Many people admired the achievement of the adventurer. ____________________________
   ____________________________

Directions Write about a real or imaginary adventure of your own. Use at least two singular possessive nouns and underline them.

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

Home Activity Your child learned how to use singular possessive nouns in writing. Ask your child to write a journal entry about the day's activities. Have him or her use at least two singular possessive nouns.

DVD•94 Singular Possessive Nouns
Consonant Pairs *ng, *nk, *ph, *wh*

**Double Puzzle** Unscramble the list words and write the letters on the lines. Then write the numbered letters to answer the question.

*What do many people watch on television on a holiday morning in November?*

1. magno 12
2. hktin 8
3. ibnak 15
4. ragph 17 14
5. nuyog 13 17
6. ewhel 7
7. penhwe 2 18
8. shwiske 5
9. wephirs 6
10. teanhelp
11. eithw 9
12. hiksrn 4
13. frhaw 3
14. nrtuk 16
15. tosgnr 11
16. kuhnc 10

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**Spelling Words**

Thanksgiving  among
think              graph
blank              young
wheel              nephew
belong             belong
whiskers           shinkle
whisper            elephant
white              shrink
wharf              trunk
strong             blink
chunk              skunk

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**Home Activity** Your child has learned to read, write, and spell words with *ng, *nk, *ph, and *wh*. Write the words, leaving out the consonant pairs. Have your child fill in the missing letters.

Consonant Pairs *ng, *nk, *ph, *wh* DVD•95
Fact and Opinion

- A statement of fact can be proved true or false. You can look in a reference book, ask an expert, or use your own knowledge and experience.

- A statement of opinion cannot be proved true or false. It is a belief or a judgment. It often contains a word of judgment, such as best, should, or beautiful. It may begin with the words In my opinion or I believe.

Directions  Read the following passage. Read each numbered statement in the boxes. Draw a line from each box to the oval titled “fact” or “opinion.”

The farmer noticed me staring at his two horses in amazement. “These are called Shire horses,” he said, as he unhitched their harnesses. The big animals had just pulled a huge stump from the ground like it was a weed. The farmer was happy to tell me about this breed of horse that was bred for working. “Shires come from England,” he explained. “They’re the best horses around!”

“They are descendants of the horses of Julius Caesar from over a thousand years ago,” he added. He told me that their hair can be almost any color. “The spotted ones are the prettiest,” he declared. I said that I was impressed by their size. “These two are pretty big,” he said, “but Shire horses can weigh over two thousand pounds. And they can grow to six feet at the shoulder.”

1. The Shire horse comes from England.  
2. They are the best horses around.  
3. They are the descendants of the horses of Julius Caesar.  
4. The spotted ones are the prettiest.  
5. Shire horses can weigh over two thousand pounds.

Home Activity  Your child identified statements of fact and statements of opinion in a short passage. Read information on a cereal box with your child. Ask your child to tell you which information is a fact and which is opinion and why.

DVD•96 Comprehension
Singular Possessive Nouns

Directions Write the possessive form of each underlined noun.

1. animal hoof ______________________
2. desert heat ______________________
3. station distance ______________________
4. Lincoln speech ______________________
5. traveler route ______________________
6. hero welcome ______________________
7. herd members ______________________
8. cowboy outfit ______________________
9. Trigger fame ______________________
10. Hollywood horse ______________________

Directions Write a singular possessive noun to complete each sentence.

11. Each ___ bravery was impressive. __________________
12. The ___ journey was risky. __________________
13. The ___ mountains and deserts could be dangerous. __________________
14. The ___ enemies included snakes and crocodiles. __________________
15. We still remember that ___ talents.  __________________

Home Activity Your child reviewed singular possessive nouns. Look at a newspaper or magazine article with your child. Have him or her identify singular possessive nouns.