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J. Weston Walch, Publisher
321 Valley Street • P.O. Box 658
Portland, Maine 04104-0658

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

ISBN 0-8251-4322-5

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J. Weston Walch, Publisher

P.O. Box 658 • Portland, Maine 04104-0658

www.walch.com

Printed in the United States of America



The *Daily Warm-Ups series* is a wonderful way to turn extra classroom minutes into valuable learning time. The 180 quick activities—one for each day of the school year—review, practice, and teach spelling and grammar points. 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. In addition to providing students with structure and focus, they are a natural path to other classroom activities involving spelling and grammar.

Daily Warm-Ups are easy-to-use reproducibles—simply photocopy the day’s activity and distribute it. Or make a transparency of the activity and project it on the board. You may want to use the activities for extra-credit points, as a check on retention of spelling and grammar you have already taught, or even as mini-lessons on topics that students have not studied recently.

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!



Synonyms are words that mean the same thing, like *cool* and *chilly*. Brainstorm eight synonyms for the verb *walk*. Write a sentence for each synonym. Explain the shades of difference in meaning of the eight different verbs.



Some linking verbs show a state of being: *Manny **is** in the media center*, for example. Other linking verbs link the subject of the sentence with another word: *Lisa **was** the winner of the spelling bee*.

Action verbs show physical action (*Lisa **won** the spelling bee*), mental action (*Manny **daydreamed** in the media center*), or ownership (*Sandi **has** a new scooter*).

Write a descriptive paragraph with four to six linking verbs. After completing your paragraph, substitute action verbs for the linking verbs. Write the action verbs above the linking verbs. Change other words in the paragraph as needed.

