

# POSTCARDS

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 Genre - Recount - Letters  
**Set 14 - 280 Words**

## Building Anticipation – Setting the Context

Bring a number of postcards of different places to show the students. Talk about why people send postcards when they go on trips.



Ask students to bring postcards they may have at home and create a bulletin board with a map of the world, marking where each postcard comes from.

## Introduction

Tell the children: *This book is called Postcards. It is about all the postcards that Grandma and Grandpa send to their granddaughter Stella as they travel across Canada.*

On the map of Canada point out the provinces and introduce the names. Have the map of Canada available to follow as you read the book.

## Discussion – Book Talk

Discuss this book page by page as you read it and discuss any challenges you encounter. This book will need several sessions to read together.

Look at the word *Newfoundland* and break it into three parts. Find Newfoundland on the map of Canada. Ask: *Why do you think Newfoundland is a good place to sail on a ship?*

Read on about Nova Scotia. Talk about what a lighthouse is.

Look at how the writer described the fog horn sound as: *Hoooooonk*. Why do you think Grandpa signed the postcard *Lo-o-o-o-ve*?

Continue reading and discussing the book page by page, to ensure that students know the words and to discuss the concepts and the word play.

## Responding Creatively – Independent Practice

Children can:

- discuss the humor. *Grandpa and Grandma say many things to make Stella laugh. Read a part to your buddy that you thought was funny.*
- create a postcard from their home or favorite place. Include a picture on the front, a short message and an address. This is a good time for students to practice printing their own addresses. Use the postcard form provided on the reproducible master.
- make a mural of the things Grandpa and Grandma saw and label the interesting things.

## Read Aloud Connections

*Toot and Puddle* by Holly Hobbie, Little Brown, 1997.

*Postcards from Canada* by Zoe Dawson, Raintree-Steck-Vaughn, 1996.

*Going Home* by Reg and Anne Cartwright, DK Publishing 2001.

*Gifts* by Jo Ellen Bogart and Barbara Reid, Scholastic, 2000.

Learning about Language – Focused Teaching		
High Frequency Words	think, watched, really, these	Find these words on the word wall or in books.
Word Families and Letter	<i>eat</i> family - wheat, seat, heat, feat, cheat	Make two lists on a T chart – the <i>eet</i> family and the <i>eat</i> family.
Structural Features of Words	Compound words  Place names - capitals	Word hunt for compound words in this story.  Make a list of all the places in the story. Write them on word cards and put them on the map.
Text Features	Structure of a letter - Dear Stella, Love, Grandma  Hooonk, Lo-o-o-o -ve	Write a letter to a friend.  Stretch other familiar words to emphasize their meaning.

