

BUILD YOUR OWN LADDER!

Materials

Use **two copies** of the blank word ladder template.

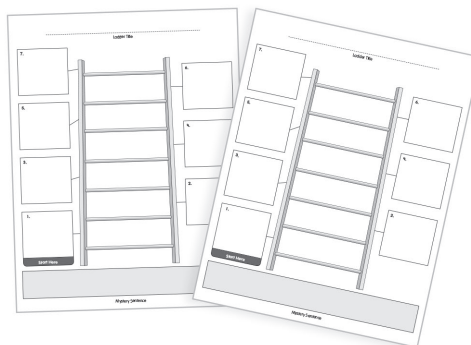
- **Copy 1:** This is your answer key!
- **Copy 2:** This copy is for your friends to solve!

Directions

1. Choose two related words that aren't too long. Examples:
 - *big-large* (synonyms)
 - *sum-add* (topics you're studying)
 - *field-day* (events/news)
2. On Copy 1, write one word at the top of your ladder and one word at the bottom of your ladder.
3. List all the words in between, changing, adding, or taking away a letter or two at a time with each new word. These are the answers to your ladder!

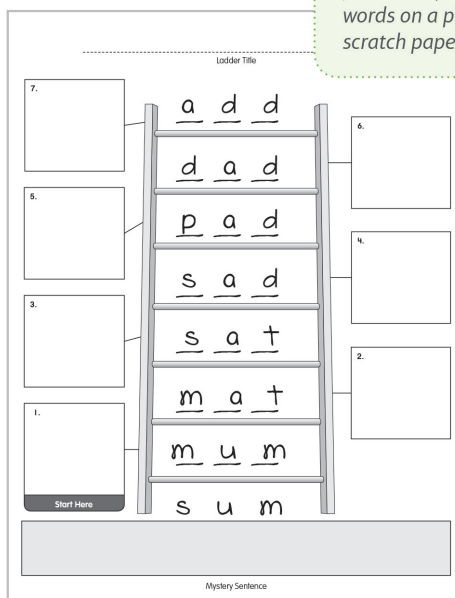
TIP!

Underline each letter in the answers to help you write the letter clues in the next step!



HINT:

It may be helpful to first make your list of words on a piece of scratch paper.



Copy 1

4. Write two clues about each new word. In the clue box, include

- a meaning clue.
- a letter clue (how to change the structure of the word).

5. Write a Mystery Sentence at the bottom of the ladder that uses both words in a meaningful way.

you add to find the sum or
total of a set of numbers.

Mystery Sentence

6. When your ladder is complete, use Copy 2 to

- fill in the first (bottom) word and all the clue boxes.
- add the Mystery Sentence at the bottom, leaving blank lines where the top and bottom words fit.
- add the exact number of lines in each rung for the letters in each word.
- add a fun title.

7. Make copies of your Copy 2 page so that classmates, friends, family members, or teachers can try to solve your puzzle. Then use your original word ladder (Copy 1) to check their answers!

All Together Now!

Ladder Title

Mystery Sentence

Copy 2

Ladder Title

7.				6.
5.				
3.				4.
1.				2.
Start Here				

Mystery Sentence

Ladder Title

9.

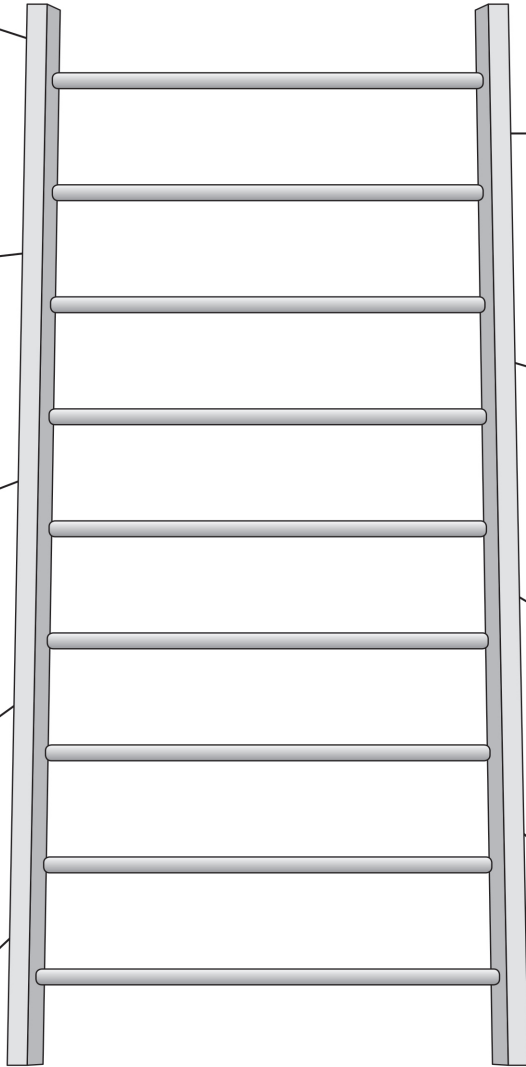
7.

5.

3.

1.

Start Here



8.

6.

4.

2.

Mystery Sentence