Congratulations on your purchase of this Really Good Stuff® Other Ways to Say Said Poster—a clever poster to help students find more interesting words than said to use in dialogue writing.

Meeting Common Core State Standards
This Really Good Stuff® Other Ways to Say Said Poster is aligned with the following Common Core State Standard for English Language Arts:

Production and Distribution of Writing
W#5 Develop and strengthen writing as needed by planning, revising, editing, rewriting, or trying a new approach.

Displaying the Other Ways to Say Said Poster
Before displaying the Other Ways to Say Said Poster, make copies of this Really Good Stuff® Activity Guide, and file the pages for future use. Or, download another copy of it from our Web site at www.reallygoodstuff.com. Hang the Poster where students will be able to see it easily.

Introducing the Other Ways to Say Said Poster
Show a sentence containing the word said and the same sentence using a more interesting word with a similar meaning. (For example, write the sentences The boy said, “Don’t go in there!” and The boy screamed, “Don’t go in there!” on the board.) Discuss how screamed is a much better word choice because it deepens our understanding of the character’s emotions.

Pointing to the Other Ways to Say Said Poster, read the list of substitutes for the word said. Tell the students that this Poster will help them to choose more interesting or exciting words than said when they write dialogue, or conversation, between people. As you substitute other similar words in your example sentence (such as The boy whispered, “Don’t go in there!”), discuss how each substituted word changes the meaning of the sentence, which makes this simple sentence more interesting. Have students repeat this process with a sentence of their own. Remind the students that you expect them to check the Poster throughout the year as they revise their own dialogue pieces to help them substitute more interesting choices for the word said.

Other Ways to Say Said Reproducible
Copy and distribute the Other Ways to Say Said Reproducible. Explain to the students that this reproducible will be like having their own Poster, and eventually thesaurus, in their writing folder. Point out the blank space under each word. Encourage students to add words to the reproducible. Ask students if they already know another more exciting word that could be used instead of said that is not on the list, and to add it in the appropriate box on the reproducible. Direct students to store the reproducible in their folders and to refer to it whenever they are stuck for more interesting or exciting ways to say the word said.

Put the Word Said to Bed! Reproducible
Copy and distribute the Put the Word Said to Bed! Reproducible. Explain to students that it is time to put the word said to bed. After reviewing the directions, indicate that they will “wake up” their writing when they use more interesting choices for said in dialogue. Tell students to use this reproducible to help them review their word choices and the impact of those choices have in their original pieces.

Add Power to Your Writing! Reproducible
Copy and distribute the Add Power to Your Writing! Reproducible. Remind students that they have been learning how to “wake up” their writing by choosing more descriptive words for the word said. Indicate that they are ready to find other words that need to be replaced so that they can add more power and excitement to their writing. Model with your own writing how you might replace a weaker word (for example, good) with a more powerful and explicit word, and how that word choice adds more power to your writing. Ask the students to try the same exercise using the reproducible. Repeat this exercise throughout the year to encourage students to revise their writing by paying closer attention to the vast variety of word choices.
Other Ways to Say Said

When you revise your writing, look for the word *said*, and substitute another word. The words below have similar meanings to the word *said*. Use the space under each word to write other words that mean the same thing as the first word in each box. The first box has been done for you.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>begged</th>
<th>whispered</th>
<th>scolded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>pleaded</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>requested</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>complained</th>
<th>argued</th>
<th>warned</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>shrieked</th>
<th>moaned</th>
<th>exclaimed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>yelled</th>
<th>thought</th>
<th>demanded</th>
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</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>replied</th>
<th>cried</th>
<th>asked</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Name: ____________________________
Put the Word *Said* to Bed!

As writers, you understand that the word *said* is not very exciting. In fact, it is rather boring! It is time to put the word *said* to bed and find other words to “wake up” your writing.

Find a sentence from your own writing that has the word *said* in it, and write the sentence below. Choose one word from the list above, and replace *said* with that word.

Your sentence: ______________________________________

_________________________________________________

Your revised sentence: ______________________________________

_________________________________________________

**Writer’s Reflection:**
How did your writing change when you used a different word for *said*?

_________________________________________________

_________________________________________________

_________________________________________________
Add Power to Your Writing! Reproducible

Name: ____________________________________________

Add  <POWERS> to Your Writing!

You have been learning how to choose words that “wake up” your writing and add power to it. Try using a similar, but more exciting word for the “tired” words below, and turn these boring sentences into power sentences.

“Tired” Word: ______________________________________

POWER Word: ______________________________________

Sentence using the POWER word:

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

“Tired” Word: ______________________________________

POWER Word: ______________________________________

Sentence using the POWER word:

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________

Authors carefully choose their words. What POWER words have you found in your reading? List them below:

__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________