

# CONTRACTIONS

## Teacher Notes

Write the word *contraction*. Explain that a contraction is two words put together to shorten the words into one. Write the word *can't*. Show that can't = can not; two words contracted together to form one word.

Write the words, *is not*. Show how a contraction is formed: is + not = \_\_\_\_\_. The contraction for *is not* is *isn't*. Explain that most times, not all, the first word is written and the second word is shortened using an apostrophe; an apostrophe looks like a comma that has jumped in the air. So to form the contraction write *is* and shorten *not* by dropping the "o" and replace it with an apostrophe.

Write the words below and have the student help to form the contraction. Show with each example the dropping of letter(s) and replacing with an apostrophe.

do not  
it is

was not  
you are

did not  
I am

have not

## Answer Key

we have - we've  
it is - it's  
do not - don't  
I am - I'm  
was not - wasn't  
they are - they're  
he is - he's

we'll - we will  
she's - she is  
can't - can not  
where's - where is  
I've - I have  
couldn't - could not  
aren't - are not

1. B  
2. E  
3. L  
4. F  
5. D  
6. M  
7. J  
8. G  
9. A  
10. C  
11. K  
12. H  
13. I

1. E  
2. I  
3. A  
4. L  
5. F  
6. M  
7. B  
8. N  
9. G  
10. C  
11. O  
12. K  
13. P  
14. D  
15. J  
16. H

# WHAT IS A CONTRACTION?

The word *contract* means to squeeze together and make smaller.

*o'clock* is a contraction for "of the clock."

A contraction is a word made of two words that are put together and then made shorter, or simply **making two words into one**.

For example: **can + not = can't**

and

**are + not = aren't**

The ' (apostrophe) takes the place of letters that are taken out of the word. In the contraction **can't**, the ' takes the place of the letters **n** and **o**.

do **not** = don't

Try saying the following sentence without using the contraction:

This food is so good I **can't** stop eating it!

Check out these websites:

[BrainPOP: Contractions](#)

Click on "English," then "Contractions" to watch as Tim and Moby explain what contractions are and how to use them. NOTE: This website is available by subscription only.

[Kid's Lab: Contraction Page](#)

Here are a variety of interactive quizzes and contraction cards to test your knowledge of contractions.

Match the two words that mean the same as the contraction.

we have	don't
it is	wasn't
do not	we've
I am	it's
was not	I'm
they are	they're
he is	he's

Write the two words that make up each contraction.

we'll \_\_\_\_\_

she's \_\_\_\_\_

can't \_\_\_\_\_

where's \_\_\_\_\_

I've \_\_\_\_\_

couldn't \_\_\_\_\_

aren't \_\_\_\_\_

Match the words to the contraction.

- |                    |              |
|--------------------|--------------|
| 1. ___ I am        | A. you've    |
| 2. ___ we are      | B. I'm       |
| 3. ___ you are     | C. he's      |
| 4. ___ could have  | D. I've      |
| 5. ___ I have      | E. we're     |
| 6. ___ should have | F. could've  |
| 7. ___ we have     | G. would've  |
| 8. ___ would have  | H. there's   |
| 9. ___ you have    | I. what's    |
| 10. ___ he is      | J. we've     |
| 11. ___ she is     | K. she's     |
| 12. ___ there is   | L. you're    |
| 13. ___ what is    | M. should've |

Match the words to the contraction.

- |                   |            |
|-------------------|------------|
| 1. ___ can not    | A. don't   |
| 2. ___ did not    | B. let's   |
| 3. ___ do not     | C. they'll |
| 4. ___ has not    | D. we'd    |
| 5. ___ must not   | E. can't   |
| 6. ___ will not   | F. mustn't |
| 7. ___ let us     | G. she'll  |
| 8. ___ he will    | H. you'd   |
| 9. ___ she will   | I. didn't  |
| 10. ___ they will | J. who'd   |
| 11. ___ we will   | K. he'd    |
| 12. ___ he would  | L. hasn't  |
| 13. ___ she would | M. won't   |
| 14. ___ we would  | N. he'll   |
| 15. ___ who would | O. we'll   |
| 16. ___ you would | P. she'd   |

**Directions:** Print on card stock. Cut out the contractions and practice matching the words to the contractions.

**Contraction Cards (II)**

he will	he'll
I will	I'll
she will	she'll
they will	they'll
we will	we'll
you will	you'll

Contraction Cards (n't)

are not

aren't

could not

couldn't

did not

didn't

do not

don't

does not

doesn't

had not

hadn't

has not

hasn't

should not

shouldn't

was not

wasn't

would not

wouldn't

Contraction Cards (n't)

can not

can't

could not

couldn't

did not

didn't

do not

don't

does not

doesn't

must not

mustn't

should not

shouldn't

will not

won't

would not

wouldn't

Contraction Cards ('m, 're, 's)

I am

I'm

they are

they're

we are

we're

you are

you're

he is

he's

how is

how's

it is

it's

she is

she's

that is

that's

there is

there's

what is

what's

where is

where's

who is

who's

why is

why's

Contraction Cards ('s, 've)

he has

he's

it has

it's

she has

she's

I have

I've

could have

could've

should have

should've

we have

we've

would have

would've

you have

you've

we have

we've

they have

they've

let us

let's

Contraction Cards ('d)

he would

he would

I would

I'd

she would

she'd

we would

we'd

who would

who'd

you would

you'd