The following is the full text of this document:

**Title:** Magic Spells. MicroSIFT Courseware Evaluation.

**Institution:** Northwest Regional Educational Lab., Portland, Oreg.

**Pub Date:** Jan 83

**Note:** 2p.; In its: MicroSIFT Courseware Evaluations (1-87), 1982. See ED 226 765.

**Pub Type:** Reports - Evaluative/Feasibility (142)

**EDRS Price:** MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.

**Descriptors:** *Computer Assisted Instruction; *Computer Programs; Drills (Practice); Elementary Education; Junior High Schools; Microcomputers; *Spelling Instruction; *Word Lists

**Identifiers:** Apple II; Courseware Evaluation; Microcomputer Software and Info for Teachers; PF Project; Software Evaluation; *Software Reviews

**Abstract:**


Instructional Purpose: Standard instruction, enrichment.

Instructional Techniques: Drill and practice, authoring.

Documentation Available: In the program--program operating instructions and student's instructions. In the supplementary materials--suggested grade/ability level(s), instructional objectives, sample program output, teacher's information, and student's instructions.

Instructional Objectives: (stated) To increase the user's skills in spelling.

Instructional Prerequisites: None.

Content and Structure: Adventure combined with spelling drill and practice with clear directions for use. Estimated Student Time Required: 20 minute sessions.

Potential Uses: Introduce disk to whole class to explain how it operates. Make up student assignment sheets including title of list, place for student name, and the date, the list of words and a place to enter the student's progress report. Student would be given assignment sheet and sent to media center to use program. Upon completion of program, student would return assignment sheet to teacher for evaluation and follow-up. This would be an excellent program for correlating vocabulary from other subject areas. Program provides an excellent means for classroom teacher to enter his or her own list of spelling or other words in which review of spelling is needed. Students find the format very motivational. It is very easy to enter a list of words. Major Strengths: The program is simple to use, especially entering a list of the teacher's choosing. The program is appealing to students. It has many possibilities for use in all subject areas. Input of the teacher's own words into program is allowed, making the program very relevant. It is very easy to enter a list of words. Appropriate clues are available to assist students having difficulty. The letters are large and easy to read. A review of the word list is provided before the activity begins. Major Weaknesses: None cited.

Evaluation Summary: Evaluators indicate they would use or recommend use of this package with little or no change. (Author)
Magic Spells

VERSION: Copyright 1981

PRODUCER: Advanced Learning Technology, Inc.
4370 Alpine Road
Portola Valley, CA 94025

EVALUATION COMPLETED: January, 1983 by the Oakland ISD, Pontiac, Michigan.

COST: $45.00

ABILITY LEVEL: Grades 1 to 8

SUBJECT: Language Arts

TOPIC: Spelling

MEDIUM OF TRANSFER: 5-1/4" flexible disk

REQUIRED HARDWARE: Apple II, 48K, single disk, color monitor recommended

REQUIRED SOFTWARE: Applesoft, DOS 3.3

INSTRUCTIONAL PURPOSE: Standard instruction, enrichment

INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNIQUES: Drill and practice, authoring

DOCUMENTATION AVAILABLE: In the program—program operating instructions and student's instructions. In the supplementary materials—suggested grade/ability level(s), instructional objectives, sample program output, teacher's information, and student's instructions.

INSTRUCTIONAL OBJECTIVES: (STATED) To increase the users skills in spelling.

INSTRUCTIONAL PREREQUISITES: None

CONTENT AND STRUCTURE: Adventure combined with spelling drill and practice with clear directions for use.

ESTIMATED STUDENT TIME REQUIRED: 20 minute sessions

POTENTIAL USES: Introduce disk to whole class to explain how it operates. Make up student assignment sheets including title of list, place for student name, and the date, the list of words and a place to enter the student's progress report. Student would be given assignment sheet and sent to media center to use program. Upon completion of program, student would return assignment sheet to teacher for evaluation and follow-up. This would be an excellent program for correlating vocabulary from other subject areas. Program provides an excellent means for classroom teacher to enter his or her own list of spelling or other words in which review of spelling is needed. Students find the format very motivational. It is very easy to enter a list of words.

MAJOR STRENGTHS: The program is simple to use, especially entering a list of the teacher's choosing. The program is appealing to students. It has many possibilities for use in all subject areas. Input of the teacher's own words into program is allowed, making the program very relevant. It is very easy to enter a list of words. Appropriate clues are available to assist students having difficulty. The letters are large and easy to read. A review of the word list is provided before the activity begins.

MAJOR WEAKNESSES: None cited.

EVALUATION SUMMARY

| Content is accurate. | Learner controls rate and sequence. |
| Content has educational value. | Instruction integrates with prior learning. |
| Content is free of stereotypes. | Learning can be generalized. |
| Purpose of package is well defined. | User support materials are comprehensive. |
| Package achieves defined purpose. | User support materials are effective. |
| Content presentation is clear and logical. | Information displays are effective. |
| Difficulty level is appropriate to audience. | Users can operate easily and independently. |
| Graphics/sound/color are used appropriately. | Teachers can employ package easily. |
| Use of package is motivational. | Computer capabilities are used appropriately. |
| Student creativity is effectively stimulated. | Program is reliable in normal use. |
| Feedback is effectively employed. | |

SA - Strongly Agree A - Agree D - Disagree SD - Strongly Disagree NA - Not Applicable

Evaluators indicate they would use or recommend use of this package with little or no change.

This evaluation is based on the evaluations of three or more reviewers who are representative of potential users of the courseware package.

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