



Hot Spots are a great way to see what your students are struggling with while reading independently. Students use hot spots to “flag” any words or parts of a selection/book that are causing them difficulty.

### **Advanced Preparation**

1. Cut each post note into four long strips so that each strip has a sticky end.
2. Place the post it strips (four pink, four green) on an index card. Put the index card in an envelope labeled “Hot Spots.”
3. Give each child a pack of “Hot Spots” to keep in their Readers Workshop folder.

### **Materials Needed for Each Student**

- Hot pink Post It note
- Green Post It note
- 1 index card
- 1 envelope

### **How to Use**

As students read something independently, have them keep their “Hot Spots” handy. Whenever students comes across a word or part of the text they don’t understand, they “flag” it using one of the pink post its. If they are able to figure it on their own, they change the post it from pink to green. If they are not able to figure it out, they leave it pink. During guided reading time or individual reading conferences, students bring their books, still flagged. The teacher has the opportunity to see where the students are struggling. The teacher can help the child independently or allow the group to discuss the flagged word or text.

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