Dry

**Etymology:** from Middle English, from Old English *dryge*; akin to Old High German *trucken* dry, Old English *drēahnian* to drain. (Source: m-w.com)

**Definition:** free from moisture or water

**Forms:** comparative drier or dryer; superlative driest or dryest

**Related Words:** n. dryer; n. drywall; v. to dry; n. hairdryer

**Fluency Practice:** David’s dog is dripping wet
   And doesn’t seem to mind.
   David tries to dry her off.
   But she dodges him every time.
   “Daisy, please,” David says, “I’m getting desperate.
   You’re dripping on the den rug.”
   But Daisy doesn’t mind a bit.
   She just drips and shakes and shrugs.

**Phonics and Vocabulary Activities**

**Beginning**
Show the photo card and ask What’s the opposite of wet? Help students determine that dry is the best response. Then, write the word dry on the board. Slowly pronounce each sound in the word /d/-/r/-/ī/. Have students repeat and blend the sounds with you. Say Listen carefully for the sound /d/ in the following words. Tell me if the sound is at the beginning, middle, or end of the word: dance, dog, closed, tundra, dirty, done, meadow, found, bulldozer, windy. Write the words on the board and call on volunteers to pronounce the word and circle the letter d in each.

**Intermediate**
Show the photo card. Ask what word best describes the landscape. After students identify the target word dry, have them spell it and write it in their notebooks. Have volunteers use the word in complete sentences. Introduce the comparative suffix -er and the superlative -est. Have students use the suffixes to form the words drier and driest. Verify spelling and tell students that although dryer and dryest are used in some dialects of English, the most common forms require the spelling change from y to i.

**Advanced**
Show the photo card. Ask what word best describes the landscape. After students identify the target word dry, have volunteers use the word in complete sentences. Read the following sentence to students: This is an arid landscape; it has not seen rain in many months. Have them work together to explain, in complete sentences, how the context of this sentence provides clues for understanding the word arid. Have them consider whether arid and dry are synonyms.