



Vocabulary

Vocabulary is the knowledge of words and the ability to recognize them in print, translate into writing and use in spoken language.

Strategies for Vocabulary Success

- **Word maps**-Interact with new vocabulary; draw a picture, write a sentence using the word, find word parts (are there smaller words within the big word that you already know), list antonyms and synonyms, characteristics of the word, context- sentence from the text, write the definition, write the meaning in your own words.
- **Working with Words- Tic- Tac-Toe**
- **Dice Words**- your child will need a partner for this game. Each person chooses the same six new vocabulary words. Each person will number them and write them down (not in the same order). You will use two dice. The first die rolled will be the number of the word the player will use. The second die will tell the player what they will do with the word;
 1. Make a connection to another word
 2. Give your definition to the word
 3. Draw the word
 4. Act it Out
 5. Give the synonym or antonym of the word
 6. Use the word in a sentence.
- Ask **questions** to integrate new words into everyday vocabulary
- Use **context clues** when a new word is identified within text.
- **Word of the Day**- Make learning new vocabulary an adventure. Be purposeful in choosing the Word of the day. Teach the word and word use. Use the word of the day multiple times during the day, make it a game, challenge each other to use it often in context.
- **Closed sorts**- use pre- determined categories and have student sort 5-10 words into each category and explain why.
- **Open sorts**- have students look at 10 words and create his/her own categories to sort the words and explain why
- After the sorts, use Venn diagram to compare and contrast new words in 2 or three categories

For more information and resources go to: <http://www.readinga-z.com/vocabulary>. Graphic organizers for vocabulary can be found at: <http://www.readinga-z.com/vocabulary/vocabulary-graphic-organizers/>

