

Improving Your Child's Vocabulary

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Introductions

- Your name
- The grade your child/children will be going into
- Games that you like to play

Agenda

- Introductions
- Importance of Developing Vocabulary
- Activities to do With Your Child
- Websites
- Questions



How does a having a strong vocabulary help my child?

Expressive

- Improves ability to say exactly what he/she means
- Impacts effective writing skills
- Increases power of persuasion

Receptive

- Improves ability to understand others
- Impacts reading comprehension



Developing a strong vocabulary...

- Affects all areas of curriculum at school-ELA, SS, Math, Science, Specials.
- Takes time—researchers found most children need to interact with a word 5-7 times before it is stored in long term memory.
- Is more effective if the child is active in learning—drawing, writing, talking, acting out, playing.
- Increases the ability to grasp new ideas and think logically—knowing more words leads to better interpretation and expression of ideas.
- Leads to workforce success; researcher Johnson O'Connor found that “a person’s vocabulary level is the best single predictor of occupational success.”
- Positively affects self esteem.

What can I do to Help my Child?

1. Have intentional conversations

- Become more aware of words-spoken, written, in social media, on TV or YouTube, in video games.
- Watch your child's face for signs of confusion.
- Stop and talk about unknown words.
- Model using strong and specific words.



What can I do to Help my Child?

2. Participate in Shared Reading

- Use text as a springboard to talk about other details both in the words and pictures.
- Be intentional in looking for words that might cause confusion.
- As you find new words, use context clues to determine meaning, then use them in sentences and find ways to relate them to your own life or to your child's background knowledge.



What can I do to Help my Child?

3. Do some work with new words together

- Write a kid friendly definition of the new word.
- Think of a kid friendly example.
- Have your child think of his/her own example.
- Think of a non-example.
- Draw a picture.
- Keep using the word intentionally over the next few days.



What can I do to Help my Child?

4. Create a word-rich environment

- Make a Word Wall with new words.
- Place labels on household items with either a noun or adjective + noun.
- Decorate with inspiring quotes or sayings that are meaningful to your family.





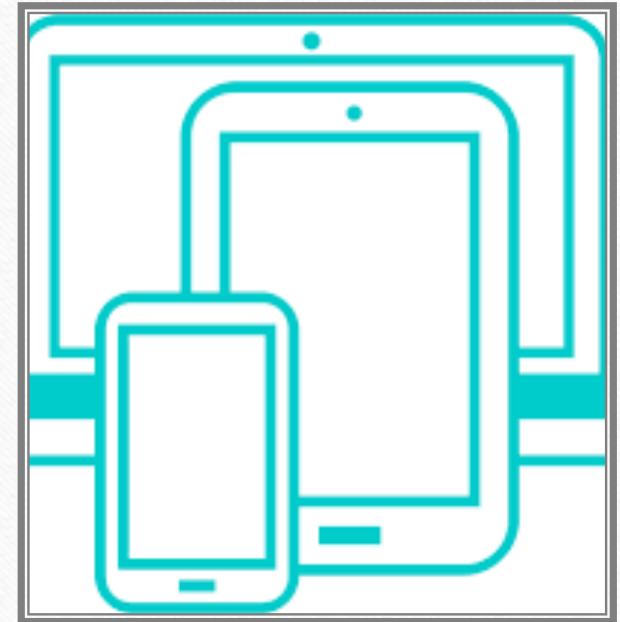
What can I do to Help my Child?

5. Play word games

- I Spy
- Category Game
- Word Hunting
- Name Game
- License Plate Phrases
- Scrabble
- Boggle
- Any other game involving words

Websites for Practicing Vocabulary

- <https://www.turtlediary.com/games/vocabulary.html>
- <https://www.learninggamesforkids.com/vocabulary-games.html>
- <http://www.wordgametime.com/word-games>
- <https://www.common sense.org/education/top-picks/great-vocabulary-games-apps-and-sites>



Questions?



Thank You!

- Today I will email you a handout with the websites and some articles.
- Please join us again on Thursday, June 18 @ 11:00 A.M.
- Bring your child, paper, and pencil.
- Look for an email with the meeting link tomorrow.

