



Vocabulary

Vocabulary Activities

Oral / Print Vocabulary

- *Computer Talk*

Developing Vocabulary Indirectly

- *Categories*
- *Sound Story*

Developing Vocabulary Directly

- *Adding to Words*

Context Clues

- *Figuring Out the Word*

Vocabulary

A child learns new vocabulary from hearing it and reading it.

A child needs a wide vocabulary to read well: he needs to know what a word is before he can understand what he is reading.

Did You Know?

You can help your child develop vocabulary in these ways:

- Have conversations with your child
- Read aloud to your child from all kinds of books
- Explain words your child does not know in a story
- Find different kinds of books for her to read
- Give your child new experiences - take her to pet shops, parks, zoos, museums
- Name new things your child sees; use specific names
Ex: *sheepshead*, not just *fish*
- Use new words your child is learning often, so she can remember them

Computer Talk



Defragmentation, also referred to as defragging and disk optimization, is a software controlled operation that moves scattered parts of files so they are once again contiguous.

This is easy for someone who works with computers to read, because they recognize the words. For the rest of us, it's more difficult! This is what a simple story might seem like for a child who does not recognize many words!

Categories

With your child find as many words as you can that will fit into these categories. Try to think of unusual words. Explain them to your child.

Clothes: shirts, blouses, vests, dresses, robes, coveralls

Furniture: bed, table, bureau, chair, wardrobe, couch ...,

Buildings: houses, bungalows, apartment buildings

Dogs: Poodles, Labradors, Retrievers

Together, think of more categories and words. When naming things for your child, **use the specific name** rather than the general name. Ex: *Poodle* instead of *dog*

Sound Story

- Read the three sets of sound words with your child.
- If he does not know a word, ask him what he thinks it means from the sound.
- Let your child choose one set of words for making up a story.
- Read the words again and ask him what he thinks his story will be about.
- Help him make up a story using the words (add *-s*, *-ed*, *-ing* to words if needed).

rustle	hoot	snap	creak
howl	rattle	slam	groan
roar	honk	zoom	screech
bang	crash		
babble	coo	gurgle	screech
cry	burp	chuckle	

Adding to Words

How many words can you and your child think of using these base words?

ice	rain	wind	sun
read	milk	book	water

Examples:

play: playful; playpen; player; ballplayer; playing field;

happy: happily; happiness; unhappy; unhappily;

sun: sunny; Sunday; sunlight; sunglasses; sunflower;

Figuring Out the Word

The group was **rambunctious**. Anne was racing around. Tina was hopping on one foot. Pat and Sam were pushing each other. Mary was yelling. Andy called for order.

- What do you think **rambunctious** means?
- What clues made you think this?

Definition of **rambunctious**: boisterous, disorderly