

Acknowledgments

Parents Who Read Have Children Who Read
An Adult Education & Family Literacy State Leadership Project

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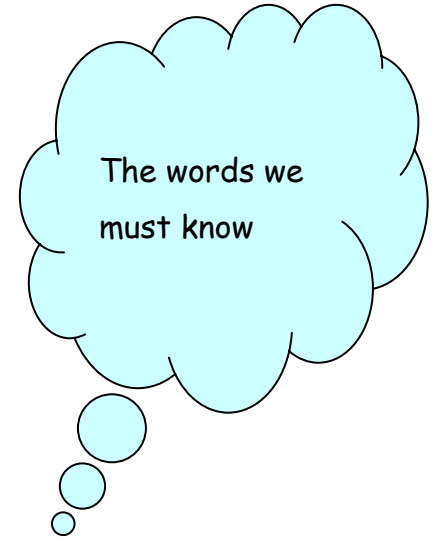
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Vocabulary

Notes

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*



Useful Web Sites

These can be accessed on home, library or school computers.

Just Read Families!

<http://www.justreadfamilies.org>

PBS Kids

<http://pbskids.org>

Association for Library Service to Children

<http://www.ala.org/ala/alsc/greatwebsites>

Reading is Fundamental - Parent's Page

<http://www.rif.org/parents/>

Reading Rockets - Reading Comprehension

<http://www.readingrockets.org/>

FCAT Explorer - Requires a password available from your child's teacher.

<http://www.fcatexplorer.com/>

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;

While You're Out

It takes from 4 to 15 successful attempts to read a word before it becomes automatic! Encourage child to read the words every time he sees them.

- Look at road signs.
- Show child sign; ask him to read it, or read it for him.
- Ask child what he thinks it means.
- If he does not know, use simpler words to explain it to him.
- Every time you see the sign ask him to read it.
- Make a big deal of it when he knows the word!

Examples of signs: **Yield** (give way) **Caution** (be careful) **Intersection** (the place where two or more roads cross)

- Read labels and signs in the supermarket.
- Read signs for different kinds of fruit and vegetables.
- Add extra words like a **bunch** of bananas, a **head** of cabbage, an **ear** of corn, a pea **pod**.

Vocabulary Ways to Help a Child

- Have conversations with your child
- Read story and informational books to your child
- ask questions before, during and after reading
- Explain new words to your child before reading
- Discuss books with your child after reading
- Use new words she has learned in different ways, and often
- Teach your child new words about things she shows an interest in
- Take your child to different places; name new things she sees or does
- Relate new words to child's own experience

Vocabulary

Knowing a lot of words is necessary for comprehension. The larger a child's vocabulary, the easier it is for him to understand what he is reading.

A child can learn vocabulary from:

- Listening to adults
- Having stories and informational books read to him
- Reading widely himself
- Being taught words
- Being taught strategies for learning words
- Figuring out what an unknown word is from clues in the text
- Hearing new words repeated in different ways

An Open-Shut Case

Antonyms or opposites

- With your child find opposites for these words.
- (Sometimes there are two or more.)
- Take turns asking each other the opposites of the words.

in	up	quiet	near	talk
over	high	round	stop	clean
left	fast	empty	big	long
above		night	heavy	hot
awake		smooth		



Examples:

open (closed / shut)
 front (back)
 talk (listen)
 give (take)
 happy (sad/unhappy)
 throw (catch)
 few (many)

The Hoarse Horse

Homonyms - words that sound the same but have different meanings.

- Explain to your child what a homonym is.
- Show your child the homonyms and read them with her.
- Explain any words she does not know.
- Make up sentences together with the words.

no **know**

Ex: **No**, I don't **know** how to swim.

rode **road** **rowed**

Ex: Tom **rode** his bike down the **road** to the river; then got in his boat and **rowed** away.

horse **hoarse**

Ex: The **horse** sounded a little **hoarse** when it neighed.

read	red	meat	meet
here	hair	knew	new
mail	male	see	sea

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