Preview Vocabulary Words

Common Core State Standards Strand

Language
– Vocabulary Acquisition and use

Grade Level
K-12

Purpose
Use with students to support acquisition of new vocabulary words

When to Use
Before Reading
During Reading
After Reading

Grouping
Whole Group
Small Group
Partners
Individuals

ABOUT THE INSTRUCTIONAL PRACTICE

PREVIEW VOCABULARY WORDS is an instructional practice that allows students to connect their background knowledge to what they are watching, listening to, or reading. Previewing vocabulary words allows students to activate their prior knowledge, clear up any misconceptions about word meaning, clarify the meaning of known words in relation to the current context, and provide some initial familiarity with unknown words, so students can make sense of the text. Educators should preview words that may be unfamiliar to students but essential to understanding the text. Additionally, educators should include problematic phrases or figurative language and words that have unfamiliar multiple meanings. Choosing which words to preview will depend on the students in the class, including issues like grade level, vocabulary and background knowledge, and English proficiency. Only spend a limited amount of time providing a basic understanding about the word.

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INSTRUCTIONAL PRACTICE

– Provide synonyms and antonyms to the preview word.
– Use everyday language to explain the words; do not use dictionary definitions.
– Provide several contexts in which the word can be used.
– Provide examples, situations, and questions that are interesting.
– Present the preview word in context and ask students to offer possible meanings.
– Encourage students to interact with the word right away by asking them to relate to and talk about the word in some way.
– Use collaborative, small groups.
– Use graphic organizers, interactive vocabulary journals, and interactive word walls to preview the words.

RESEARCH

Beck, I.L., & McKeown, M.G. (2007). Different ways for different goals, but keep your eye on the higher verbal goals. In R.K. Wagner, A.E. Muse, & K. R. Tannenbaum (Eds.). *Vocabulary acquisition: Implications for reading comprehension*. New York: The Guilford Press.

Graves, M.F. (2006). *The vocabulary book*. New York: Teachers College Press.

WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS WISCONSIN

WISCONSIN RtI Center

Preview Vocabulary Words:
Concept Circles

Before Reading/Viewing/Listening
Pioneers traveled in wagons across trails to go west. They used boosters when they were tired.

After Reading/Viewing/Listening
Traveling west had many hardships. There were many boosters that were trying to make people move west. Your wagon would need to hold many delicacies. For instance, food, you'd need food to eat and live on. The trails could have bad terrain, or it could be all flat.

Preview Vocabulary Words: Possible Sentences

Viruses and Bacteria

salmonella	+	E. coli	+	Legionella	=	_____
rodlike	+	spiral	+	spherical	=	_____
cell wall	+	cytoplasm	+	ribosomes	=	_____
strep throat	+	diarrhea	+	food poisoning	=	_____

Viruses and Bacteria

Checking Understanding	
Answer to my question or new question and answer:	Create a visual representation (with labels) that shows what you have learned.
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

Preview Vocabulary Words: Possible Questions

Triangle Shirtwaist Fire

Key Vocabulary

sunny	Fire escapes	Windows	Floor
Ten-story	Warned	Message	Rules
Triangle	Workers	Investigation	Fire
shirtwaist	Locked	Soaked	Reform
Framed	Women	Freight elevators	Never
Oil	Teletype	Ablaze	Identified
Stairways	Cloth		supervisors

Possible Sentences

1. Triangle Shirtwaist is a clothing store where women work.
2. Then entrances to the fire escapes were lock so they jumped.
3. It was a rule that women could help other workers.
4. The stairways, fire escape, and windows were blocked.
5. No supervisors helped the workers.
6. The fire started from all the cloth on the floors.
7. Women were never to leave work early.
8. No message was sent that the building was ablaze.
9. There was an investigation.
10. It was a sunny day.

Triangle Shirtwaist Fire

Using Sentences as a Guide/Modifying Predictions

1. Triangle Shirtwaist was a factory where shirtwaists were manufactured.
2. There were not enough fire escapes and the fire escapes collapsed from too many people.
3. It was a rule that doors were locked by the owners to prevent theft.
4. The stairways and fire escape were blocked.
5. No supervisors helped the workers. Supervisors got in the freight elevator and tried to escape without helping the workers.
6. The fire started from all the cloth on the floors. The fire started from a spark with cloth soaked by oil from the sewing machines.
7. Women were never to leave work early. We didn't read anything about this.
8. No message was sent that the building was ablaze. A message was sent by teletype
9. There was an investigation. True.
10. It was a sunny day. True.

Preview Vocabulary Words:
Knowledge Rating Scale

Word	Level 1 Unknown	Level 2 Awareness of a Word	Level 3 Partial Knowledge	Level 4 Complete Knowledge	Recognizable Parts/Related	Predicted Definition	Actual Definition