

Vivid VOCABULARY

Companion to
BASICS: UNIT 2
Mentor Sentences



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BEST PRACTICES

The days of giving a list of vocabulary words to look up in the dictionary, write a sentence, and then take a quiz, have come and gone. Not only do the students not enjoy this process, it isn't a best practice. Research has shown that teaching new words without context (teaching just definitions) will not improve reading comprehension. One way to present vocabulary words effectively is to teach through texts you are already using for other lessons. Picture books are vital - yes, even in the upper grades - to allow students to use the images to help with context and infer meaning of words. As Irene Fountas and Gay Pinnell remind us in Guiding Readers and Writers (2001), "if you really know a word, you can: - Read it in many different contexts, understanding the meaning each time. - Use it in a decontextualized way, mapping out the different meanings that are possible given the context. - Realize the connotations that a word may have when used in a certain way (e.g., as part of irony or sarcasm). - Use of the word metaphorically if appropriate."

In order to effectively employ vocabulary instruction, it is crucial to present opportunities for students to make connections between the words and concepts, and provide repeated exposures to the words (as cited in Fountas & Pinnell, 2001). Words must be used over time or they won't "stick." Charlene Cobb and Camille Blachowicz provide support for vocabulary instruction in their book, No More Look Up The List Vocabulary Instruction (2014). One suggestion is to have a word wall- but not one that remains on the wall untouched all year. It should be used regularly, with student input. Cobb and Blachowicz (2014) also remind us of the importance of teaching students how the words work, building word relationships and using them in writing and speaking.

BEST PRACTICES

Bringing Words to Life by Isabel Beck, Margaret McKeown, and Linda Kucan (2013) provides suggestions on how to introduce word meanings. It is not necessary to always “preview” words before reading a text, because the students don’t understand the context. This is essentially no different than providing a list with definitions. Beck, McKeown, and Kucan advise the best time to introduce the meaning of a word is when it is encountered in the text. This can also be done after reading the entire text by referring back to the pages where the word is found. Like Cobb and Blachowicz (2014), they also recommend “frequent and varied encounters” with the words in order to “engage students in deep processing.” Robert Marzano is yet another significant vocabulary expert. His six step process is on the next page.

In this Vivid Vocabulary pack, I have provided activities for use with mentor texts. Every “set” includes the “What Do You Think?” page for context application and the “Show What You Know” page to formatively assess students. The other activities vary based on the text and the vocabulary words. There are open-ended activities and ideas provided that can be used with any words, and I encourage you to incorporate past words in with the current words using these formats for frequent repetition. Also, make sure to point out when words are featured again in another text, or when synonymous words that have been learned appear in texts. You should also show them how to make connections between words over the course of the year and show them how to summarize events using the past and new vocabulary. See the “Ongoing Activities” pages for more ideas.

BEST PRACTICES

Marzano's Six Step Process For Teaching Vocabulary

1. Provide a description, explanation, or example of the new term.
(Tell a story that integrates the term or show a picture of the term)
2. Ask students to restate the description, explanation, or example in their own words. (Correct misunderstandings)
3. Ask students to construct a picture, symbol, or graphic representing the word. (Draw your own example, too)
4. Engage students periodically in activities that help them add to their knowledge of the terms. (Identify prefixes, suffixes, synonyms, antonyms, analogies, reminders of confusion)
5. Ask students to discuss the terms with one another.
(Compare drawings and descriptions)
6. Play games periodically that allow them to play with terms.
(Pictionary, Jeopardy, Charades, Headbands)

(Marzano, 2004)

Use the Word Work activity on the next page with these steps for front-loading!

word:

picture or symbol:

PREVIEW

synonyms:

explain in your own words:

PREVIEW

word:

picture or symbol:

PREVIEW

synonyms:

explain in your own words:

PREVIEW

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

INTERACTIVE WORD WALL (as mentioned in best practices)

- Sort the words on the wall/board by parts of speech.
- Mark prefixes/suffixes in the words that denote meaning.
- Leave room under the words to allow for lists of synonyms.
- Create new words with prefixes/suffixes using the vocabulary words of the week.
- Allow students to create illustrations to be displayed with the words.

MARZANO'S WORD WORK (half sheet activity)

- This should be used as a front-loading activity, if you wish to use it.

WHAT DO YOU THINK? activity page

- Model for students how to infer the meaning of the words by using pictures in the book, as well as reading through the sentence and around the sentence to look for clues.
- Model for students how to determine the function, or part of speech, of the word by looking at suffixes (-ed and -ing often show verb tense, or -ly often indicates an adverb...) and ways it is used in the sentence (replace the word with another verb or noun, for example).

ONGOING ACTIVITIES

DIFFERENTIATE FOR STYLES OF LEARNING

- “Warm up” the students by discussing a topic the words fall under when applicable (for example, if the book is about bats... ask, “What do you know about bats?” Show the vocabulary words and allow them to share what they know about how the words relate to bats.
- Allow students to act out vocabulary words (old and new) by asking them, “What does it look like when you...?”
- Write the word on a strip of paper long enough to go around their head, stapled (like a crown) - students should not see the word on their head. Students should ask questions about their word to others to help them guess the word that is on their crown.

CENTERS/WORD WORK STATIONS

- The independent activities could go in a center, or use the multiple intelligences tic-tac-toe board. (Suggestion: give graph paper for the crossword- it comes out cleaner!)
- Create TWO sets of each of the word cards included for each mentor text: one for the wall and one for the centers (some of the activities include using the word cards).

Tic-Tac-Toe

Write a short story using all of the vocabulary words from the week.

Create word art for at least three of the week's vocabulary words.

Draw a cartoon strip that uses all of the week's vocabulary words.

Work with a partner to create a commercial that uses the vocabulary words of the week.

FREE CHOICE

choose any of the boxes to complete

Create a crossword puzzle with the week's vocabulary words.

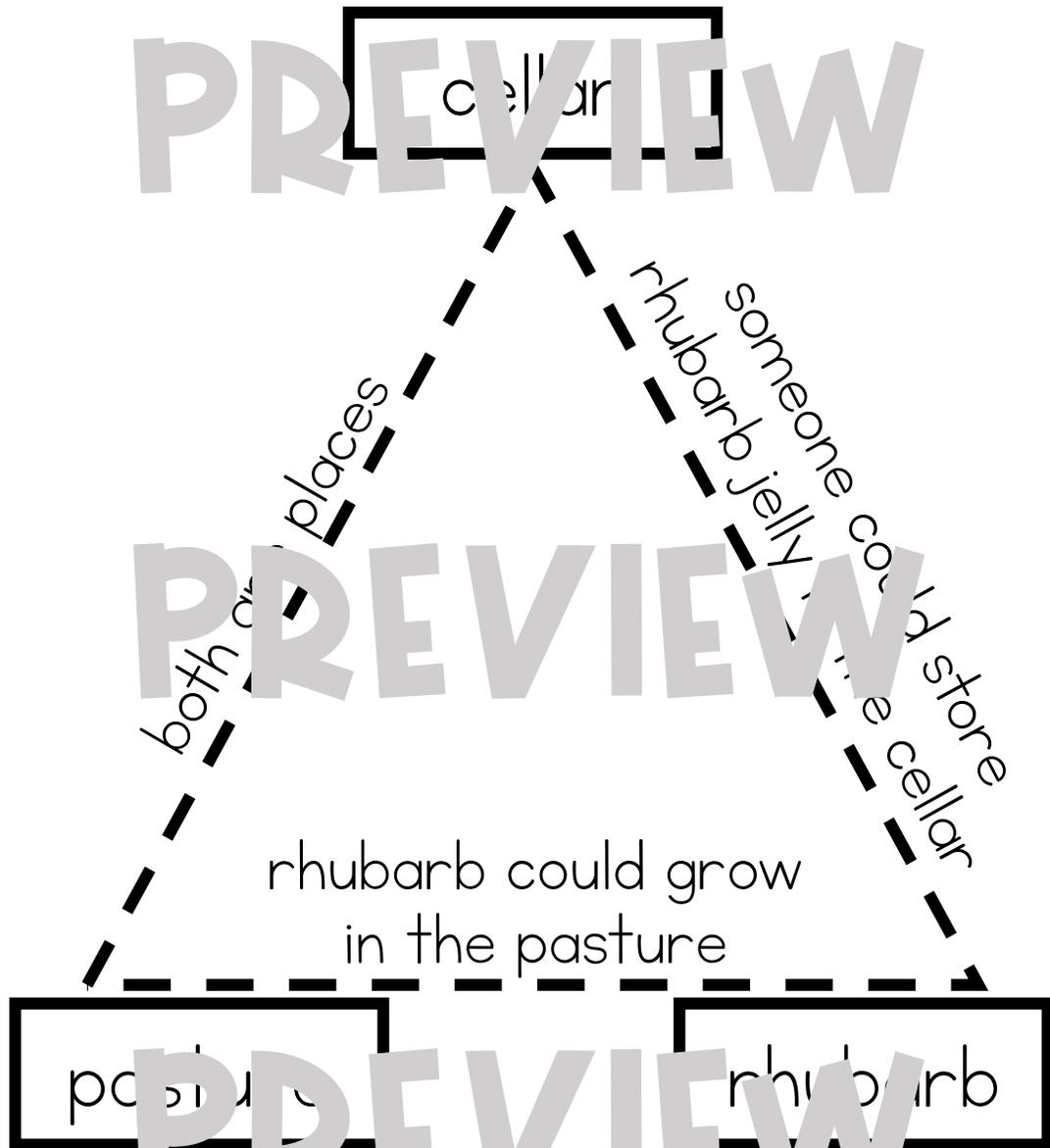
Write a song or poem using at least four of the vocabulary words from the week.

Choose ten of the ongoing vocabulary words and sort them in two different ways.

Choose two of the weekly words and share a way you can relate to the word in your life.

Make Connections

Choose three vocabulary words. Write one in each box, and then make a connection along the line by thinking of a way the two words are related. Write the connection on the line.



Make CONNECTIONS



PREVIEW

PREVIEW

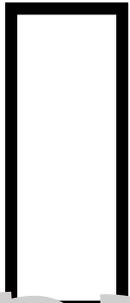


PREVIEW

Make Connections

PREVIEW

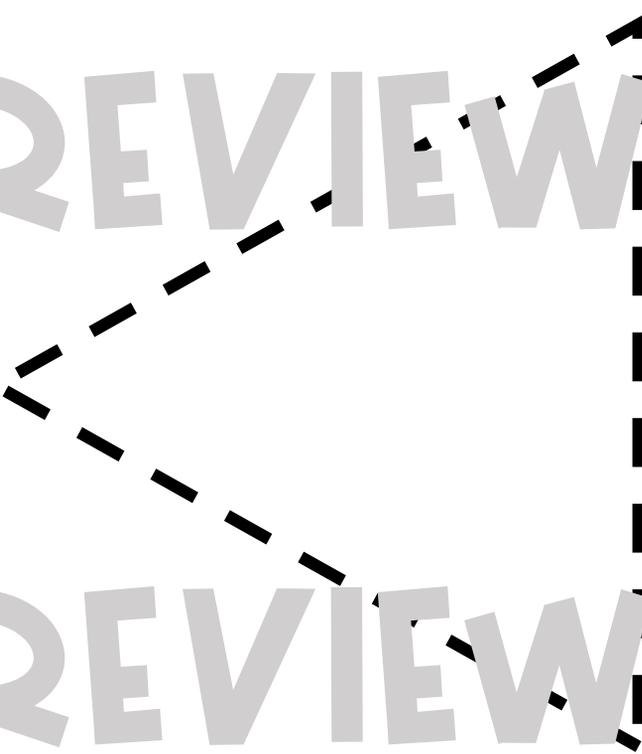
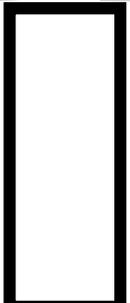
PREVIEW



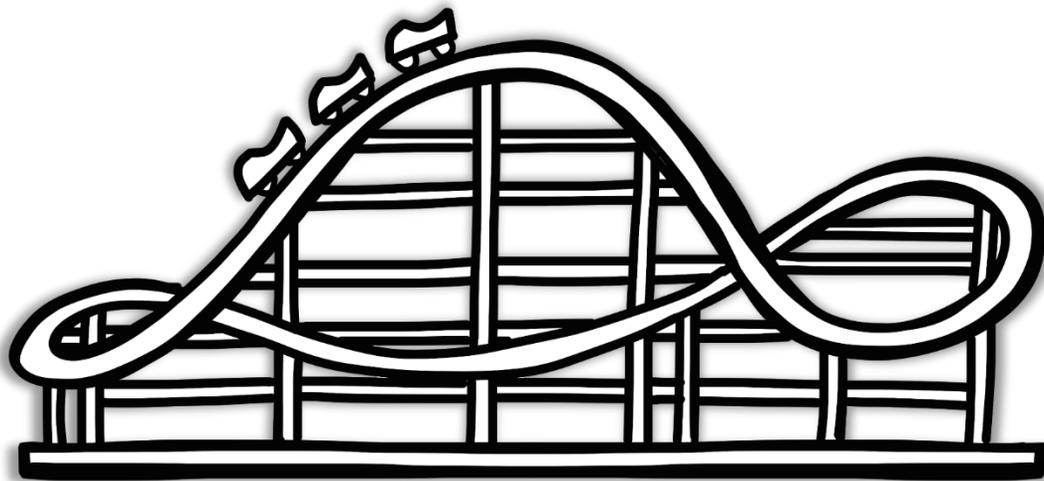
Make Connections

PREVIEW

PREVIEW



ROLLER COASTER



by Marla Frazee

PREVIEW

operator



© jivey

PREVIEW

releases



© jivey

PREVIEW

zips



© jivey

dips



© jivey

PREVIEW

wobbly



© jivey

thrill



© jivey

PREVIEW

Name: _____

Date: _____

WHAT DO YOU THINK?



Use the text and picture clues to help you infer the meaning of these words.

WORD	PART OF SPEECH	BOOK CLUES	YOUR DEFINITION
operator			
releases			
zips			
dips			
wobbly			
thrill*			

*word is represented throughout the ride

Name: **ANSWER KEY**

Date: _____

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Use the text and picture clues to help you infer the meaning of these words.

WORD	PART OF SPEECH	BOOK CLUES	YOUR DEFINITION
operator	noun	The person who runs the roller coaster	a person who operates a machine
releases	verb	The operator takes off the brake	allow to move
zips	verb	The roller coaster is going very fast	moving quickly
dips	verb	The roller coaster goes down hills	drops
wobbly	adjective	People are dizzy and their knees are turned in	unsteady or shaky
thrill*	noun	People scream "weeee" with excitement	a feeling of excitement

Name: _____ Date: _____

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



Solve the puzzle by filling in the correct vocabulary words.

operator

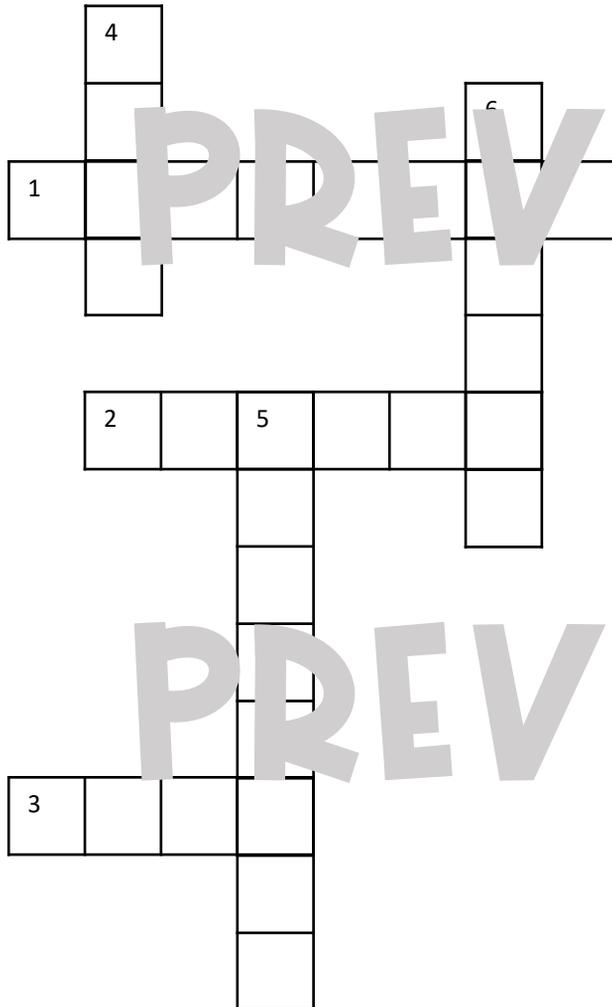
releases

zips

dips

wobbly

thrill



ACROSS

- The bulldozer _____ moved the dirt to the empty lot.
- Skydiving is a _____. I don't think I want to experience it.
- The stunt pilot _____ his plane in upside down flips.

DOWN

- The hummingbird _____ from flower to flower for nectar.
- If Albert can't see a sign that is too small, he always _____ it.
- The _____ tire looked as though it might fall off of the car.

Name: _____ Date: _____

PREVIEW



Analogies show relationships between two words. Think of how the words are related on one side to solve the other side of the analogy.

*Example- car : road :: train : tracks Car is to road as train is to tracks.
(Cars move on roads like trains move on tracks.)*

zips : zooms :: sprints : _____

releases : top :: _____ matches

high : soars :: low : _____

_____ : operator :: train : conductor

sturdy : _____ : firm : soft

sadness : sorrow :: excitement : _____

Create your own analogies using vocabulary words.

_____ : _____ :: _____ : _____

_____ : _____ :: _____ : _____

PREVIEW

Name: **ANSWER KEY**

Date: _____

PREVIEW

Analogies show relationships between two words. Think of how the words are related on one side to solve the other side of the analogy.

Example- car : road :: train : tracks Car is to road as train is to tracks.

(Cars move on roads like trains move on tracks.)

answers will vary - should be synonym of sprints or speeds

zips : zooms :: sprints : _____

releases : top :: _____ : matches

high : soars :: low : _____ dips

answers will vary - should be a machine that needs

an operator : operator :: train : conductor

sturdy : _____ vobly :: firm : soft

sadness : sorrow :: excitement : _____ thrill

Create your own analogies using vocabulary words.

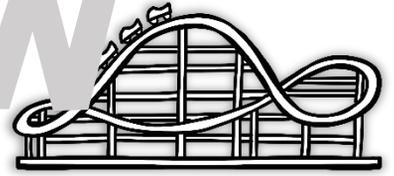
answers will vary

_____ : _____ :: _____ : _____

PREVIEW

Name: _____ Date: _____

SHOW WHAT YOU KNOW!



1. Which word is an **ANTONYM** for releases?

a. frees

b. holds on

c. lets go

2. Should an operator be trained? Why or why not?

PREVIEW

3. Give an example of a community you have had, or heard about.

PREVIEW

4. *Bryan waited to go on stage with wobbly knees.* How does Bryan most likely feel? How do you know?

5. Which word has the same meaning as zips?

a. delays

b. drops

c. zooms

6. The land between the mountains dips into a valley. What can you infer about the valley?

a. the land is high

b. the land is low

c. the land has hills

PREVIEW

Name: **ANSWER KEY**

Date: _____

SHOW WHAT YOU KNOW!

1. Which word is an **ANTONYM** for releases?

a. frees

b. holds on

c. lets go

2. Should an operator be trained? Why or why not?

Yes, because they are usually running heavy machinery that could hurt someone.

3. Give an example of a technology you have used, and how it helped you.

answers will vary

4. *Bryan waited to go on stage with wobbly knees.* How does Bryan most likely feel? How do you know?

He is nervous. His knees are wobbly, which can happen if you are scared.

5. Which word has the same meaning as zips?

a. delays

b. drops

c. zooms

6. The land between the mountains dips into a valley. What can you infer about the valley?

a. the land is high

b. the land is low

c. the land has hills

COMPANIONS

These same mentor texts can be found in the following units. Use all of these companion pieces to maximize your time with mentor texts!

MENTOR SENTENCES
Just The Basics
For Upper Grades
SET 2

ideas by jivey

A graphic with a colorful chevron border. It features a photo of a young girl with dark hair, wearing a light blue shirt, smiling and resting her chin on her hand while looking at an open book. The text is in various green and black fonts. A circular logo with 'ideas by jivey' is in the bottom left corner.

INTERACTIVE LANGUAGE ARTS NOTEBOOK ACTIVITIES
Companion to Just the Basics Set 2 Mentor Sentences

ideas by jivey

A graphic with a colorful striped border. The text is in green and black fonts. A circular logo with 'ideas by jivey' is in the bottom right corner.

Grades 3-5
READING & WRITING UNITS
for 40 Popular Mentor Texts

BETTER THAN BASAL
JUST THE BASICS

Common Core Aligned
100+ ORGANIZERS
with Answer Keys!

ideas by jivey

A graphic with a colorful chevron border. It features a cartoon girl with dark hair, wearing a purple shirt and brown boots, sitting and reading a book. The text is in various pink, teal, and black fonts. A circular logo with 'ideas by jivey' is in the bottom right corner. The background shows a grid of small thumbnail images of various reading and writing units.



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