

Using Read-Aloud selections to Develop Oral Vocabulary

Key Features of the Oral Vocabulary Read-Aloud selections

- The Oral Vocabulary selections feature folk tales from around the world, contemporary fiction, and high-interest nonfiction. There is one selection per week.
- A Wonderful Words activity provides a routine for introducing vocabulary. Introduce underlined words using the following routine:
 - Define:** offers a student-friendly definition
 - Example:** uses the word in a context students will relate to
 - Ask:** offers a question that requires students to use the word in their own sentences as they reply

Using the Read-Aloud Oral Vocabulary Selections

- Read the selection aloud. As you encounter an underlined word, stop and use the **Define/Example/Ask** routine at the end of the selection to teach the word and provide time for discussion.
- As an alternative, first read the selection straight through and then go back to use the **Define/Example/Ask** routine to teach the Wonderful Words.

Retelling and Developing Conversations

The Oral Vocabulary Read-Aloud selections are also designed to develop children's speaking skills. As you share the stories with children, use the following strategies to engage children in discussion.

- Motivate discussion by asking children about their experiences. Discuss unfamiliar concepts by relating to student's personal experiences. Use examples from your own life to make concepts clear.
- Pause long enough to allow students to think and respond.
- Ask students, one by one, to retell the events of the story in a group situation. Encourage each student to tell one event or fact in chronological order.
- Have students practice fluency with the patterned parts and repetitive stanzas.
- Ask students to role-play parts of the story by becoming characters. Invite a narrator to tell the story while students use the characters' words at the appropriate time.
- Allow groups of students to become one character so that those at a beginning language level can participate.
- Provide a simple synopsis of the story and invite students to add the details they remember.