

Ways to Help with Vocabulary Development

- Have your child paste a picture from a magazine on one side of a piece of paper and list all of the vocabulary that could be associated with it on the other side (including verbs). Have her dictate or write a story about the picture using the vocabulary.
- Place interesting pictures or objects on a table and have your child describe them in detail. Provide assistance in forming appropriate vocabulary to use when describing the object.
- Have your child make up sentences or stories using new words she has learned.
- Review daily new vocabulary words and their meanings. Have your child use the words daily.
- Have your child provide as many adjectives as possible to go with a given noun (e.g., “lady”- pretty, tall, nice, etc.)
- Use new words in a sentence completion activity. Have your child explain how the use of different words changes the meaning of the sentences (e.g., I like Jerry because he is _____[sincere, humorous, competitive], etc.).
- Attach labels to items in your child’s environment (e.g., chalkboard, window, desk, doorway, etc.) for her to make visual associations with the vocabulary words.
- Use pictures to help your child understand the meanings of new vocabulary words.
- Have the student maintain a vocabulary notebook (picture or word) with definitions of words whose meaning she does not know.
- Prompt your child to help her respond with adequate vocabulary (e.g., Student says “that thing” -Parent responds “what thing, what is it doing?” etc.).
- Read to your child and discuss words and story.
- Play games using describing- “I spy something that you wear on your feet...It is clothing...It is used to keep them warm...” Take turns
- Play ‘alike and different’ games- “I’m thinking of an apple and an orange. They are both _____, They are different because _____, “ Use pictures to help child.