

SUMMARY

READING TARGET:

Vocabulary Skill Development

Level 1: EMERGING

- ◆ Identify unfamiliar words in a book
- ◆ Find the meaning of a word in a paragraph
- ◆ Describe the meaning of a word from a book or magazine
- ◆ Label things around the house
- ◆ Write notes using words that have a variety of meanings
- ◆ Find word patterns or word families
- ◆ Create a funny book based upon patterns
- ◆ Dictate a story or personal letter, and jazz it up with exciting words



HOME ACTIVITIES FOR VOCABULARY DEVELOPMENT

Level 1

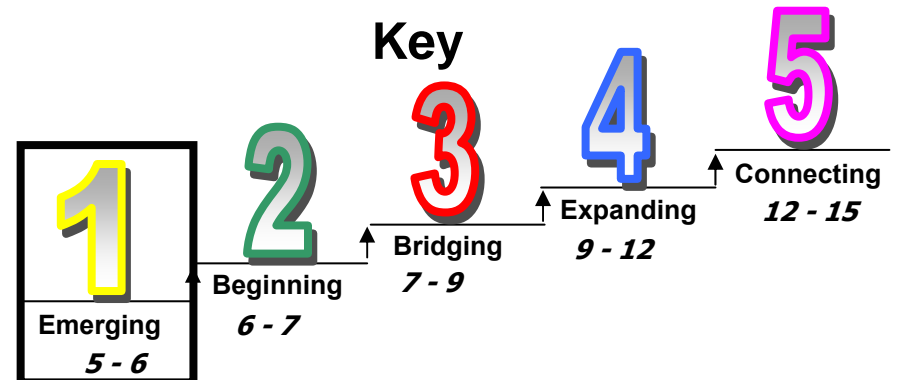
Vocabulary includes the words we use in listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Vocabulary refers to the words we must know to communicate effectively. The more words a student is able to read and understand, the more knowledge they will acquire. Opportunities for vocabulary development can occur at home, at school, and through independent exploration.

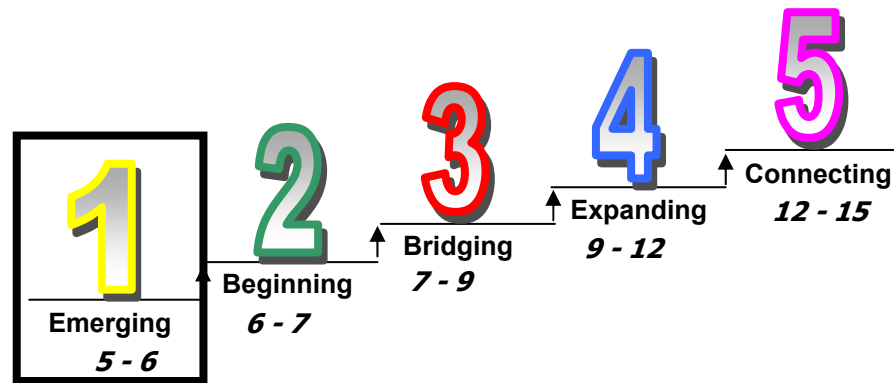
It is our goal to provide strategies to use at home to increase the number of words a student knows and can use in their communication.

Please feel free to contact your child's teacher for more information and assistance for other ways to improve their reading and writing. Good luck and have fun with these ideas.

GUIDE TO SELECTING THE RIGHT LEVEL

	Skill	Age Span(s)	Color
level 1	emerging	5 - 6 years old	yellow
level 2	beginning	6 - 7 years old	green
level 3	bridging	7 - 9 years old	red
level 4	expanding	9 - 12 years old	blue
level 5	connecting	12 - 15 years old	pink





- Preview a page of the book to find a word or two that your child may not know. Say the word and ask them to find it. When found, put a finger on each side of the word and say the word aloud.
- Read a selected paragraph. Ask your child to find the word in the paragraph that best describes the paragraph's meaning. What other words have the same meaning as the word selected? What word or words mean the opposite?
- Read a variety of stories in books, magazines, newspapers, etc. Ask your child if they might know the meaning of the word by how it is used in the selection.
- Label as many things as possible around the house, including personal drawings and illustrations.
- Write special messages and notes using words that have a variety of meanings. Amelia Bedelia books contain wonderful examples of words that sound the same, but mean different things!
- Find word patterns and word families. Fat, mat, sat, _at, etc. Make a flip chart or a word wheel that can be used for the following:
 - *-ad, -am, -ag, -al, -a, -ap, -ab, -an, -ash, -ax, -ath
 - *-og, -om, -od, -ot, -op, -ob, -on, -osh, -ox, -oss, -ogt
 - *-im, -id, -it, -ig, -ip, -ib, -in, -ish, -ill, -ich, -ix

*-up, -ut, -ud, -um, -atch, -ant, -and, -ang, -ank, -anch, -amp

- Think of things that start with the same sound. Then you can create a funny book based upon these patterns. (Brown bears bicycling. Crazy cats calling coyotes.)
- Be your child's secretary and take dictation of a story or personal letter to send to someone special. Write down the words your child speaks. Create a book from this short story that can be illustrated and shared with family members. Jazz up the story with exciting action words. Use homophones; words that sound the same but mean something different such as right/write, red/read, see/sea, rain/reign, etc. for a funny change of pace!
- While driving or waiting for an appointment, choose an experience or activity familiar to your child. Ask your child to give you as many words as they can that describe the topic or item you have chosen. An example might be a movie theatre: seats, popcorn, curtains, darkness, pop, etc.