



Vocabulary Game

This activity is designed to highly engage students in learning new vocabulary. The Vocabulary Game works with students to build note taking, vocabulary and oral communication skills.

Overview:	Students will develop their ability to recognize new vocabulary and discover its meaning while taking notes. Vocabulary is then reinforced with an interactive game.
Standards addressed:	<p>Common Core Standards</p> <p>Reading Standards for Informational Text 4.4 Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words or phrases in a text relevant to a grade 4 topic or subject area.</p> <p>Reading Standards for Informational Text 5.4 Determine the meaning of general academic and domain-specific words and phrases in a text relevant to a grade 5 topic or subject area.</p>
Activity works best with:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whole groups
Preparation time:	Low
Materials:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer with Internet access • LCD projector • Notecards or self-adhesive name tags • Pens/Pencils • Tape – if using note cards • Paper
Preparation:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct a web browser to the We Give Books website at www.wegivebooks.org. • Log in to your account and select a campaign to support. • Choose a book to read and click the orange “Read Online” button to open it.

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<p>Introduction:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Let students know that the class will be reading a nonfiction text and looking for new vocabulary words. • The first time the book is read, the class will build the list of new words. • During the second reading, they will define the words.
<p>Activity:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read the selected book out loud to the class while building a list of new words in a place where every student can see. • Have students take a new piece of paper out and fold it in half, length-wise. • Explain that on the left side, students will list every vocabulary word; and on the right side, across from each vocabulary word, students will write its definition. • Slowly reread the book, defining the new vocabulary words as the book is read. Add the definitions to the list of vocabulary words so the class has a common reference. • Once all the words have been defined, pass out notecards or self-adhesive name tags and assign each student one definition or vocabulary word to write on his or her card. • Once students are done, collect the cards, shuffle them and attach one to the back of each student. • Students will need to figure out what is on their backs AND find their partner with the matching definition or vocabulary word by asking other students relevant “yes” or “no” questions. • Once students have figured out what word or definition they are, and have found their partner, have them step out of the game.

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Tips for expansion:

- This is a great activity to do at the beginning of a new science or social studies unit.
- Have students write a paragraph using three of the new vocabulary words.
- Students can build a [Block Print](#) or [Sand Painting](#) that describes one of the new vocabulary words related to a science or social studies unit. You can find instructions for these projects online in the Craft Projects section, among many other resources, available to you to download for free on the **We Give Books** website at www.wegivebooks.org/resources.