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Grab-N-Go

Vocabulary Strategy: Finding a Word Worth Exploring

Words You Kind-of-Know	Words from a Text You are Reading	A Word You Hear Often But Can't Define	A Word from a Whole-Class List
• Is there a word I could use in a sentence, but I'd feel shaky if someone asked me what it really means? • Have I ever nodded along to a word as if I understood it? • Is there a word I've guessed at from context, and I'm not sure my guess was right? • Do I know one meaning of this word but suspect it has others? • Could I explain this word to a friend without looking it up? Where does my explanation fall apart?	• Did I slow down, reread, or skip over a word in this text? • Which word seems important to the author's message, tone, or argument? • Is there a word that surprised me, because it's stronger, odder, or more precise than I expected? • Why did the author choose this word instead of a simpler one? What would change if it were swapped out? • Does a word show up more than once in this text? What might that repetition be telling me? • Does this word help me understand a character, an idea, or the writer's point of view?	• Which word do I hear all the time (from teachers, family, friends, the news, video games, or social media) but couldn't define if someone asked? • Where do I hear it most? Does everyone around me seem to know it? • Do people use it in different ways in different places? • Do I know how it sounds when someone says it, even if I don't know what it means? • If I looked it up, what would I most want to find out: its meaning, its origin, or how people use it?	• Which word on this list makes me curious? • Which word do I recognize, but only a little? • Which word could I see myself using in my own writing or conversation this week? • Which word looks connected to words I already know (a root, a prefix, a suffix)? • Which word seems like it has a story or a surprising meaning? • If I could only dig into one word on this list, which one would teach me the most?

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