
VOCABULARY BINGO

Diary of a Wimpy Kid
1st edition, paperback 2007

PURPOSE OF THE STRATEGY

Vocabulary bingo is an effective way to reinforce sight-word recognition and to undertake a graphophonic analysis of individual words. Learning vocabulary specific to a given text, including content-specific texts such as biology or history is another use for vocabulary bingo.

CONTEXT

In *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* Greg Heffley encounters similar experiences of those who are his age reading the book. One day at school, Greg decides to run for class treasurer and then writes about what happened using vocabulary specific to campaigning. Events like this occur many times where Greg uses genre specific vocabulary, and because many student will encounter the same events, such as school elections, emotions, exercising, etc. it is important to help students understand the vocabulary they have or will be exposed to.

DIRECTIONS

This Strategy will work best either before or during the novel so students will better understand the text as they read, or it can be used after the novel as a review.

1. Present a sample of a bingo card to your students. Have them list at least 25 vocabulary words or terms that they would like to review. You could alternatively brainstorm as a class to create a master list on an overhead that your students could choose their 25 words from.
2. Have students create definitions for each of these terms by using the glossary in their books or using the dictionary. Record each word and its definition on a 3 x 5 card. After you have given students a chance to study their words, collect the 3 x 5 cards. Sort through the cards quickly until you have chosen twenty words.
3. Give the students about 10 minutes to create their individual bingo cards by writing one of the words from the master list on each square. After they have finished, read the definitions for the terms aloud from the 3 x 5 cards and have the student cover the terms that they believe match your definition.
4. Shuffle the 3 x 5 cards in between games.
5. The object of the game is to cover a horizontal, vertical, or diagonal row. The first person

to do this is the winner.

6. Check the winner by rereading the definitions used. This step reinforces the definitions of the words and allows students an opportunity to ask questions.

EXAMPLE

Topic: *Diary of a Wimpy Kid*

Term	Definition
Considerate -	Showing kindly awareness or regard for another's feelings, circumstances
Gimmick-	A device employed to cheat, deceive, or trick
Blubbing-	An act of weeping noisily and without restraint
Red-handed-	In the act of committing something wrong
Sarcasm-	Expressing or expressive of ridicule that wounds
Fabrication-	Creating an untruthful statement
Campaign-	An operation or series of operations energetically pursued to accomplish a purpose
Regimen-	A regulated system, as of diet, therapy, or exercise, intended to promote health or achieve another beneficial effect
Degrade-	To lower in character or quality; debase
Ad-lib-	To improvise all or part of (a speech, a piece of music, etc
Humiliate-	To cause (a person) a painful loss of pride, self-respect, or dignity

Hassle-	To bother, annoy, or harass
Confer-	To consult together
Promotion-	Advancement in rank or position
Dignity-	The quality or state of being worthy of esteem or respect
Exhibited-	To show outwardly; display
Satisfy-	To fulfill the desires, expectations, needs, or demands of
Foiled-	To prevent from being successful; thwart
Enthusiastic-	lively interest of something
Scramble-	to move hastily and with urgency
Racket-	a loud noise or clamor
Complicate-	to make complex, intricate, involved, or difficult
Treasurer-	One who has charge of funds
Budge-	to move slightly; begin to move
Bother-	to give trouble to; annoy; pester

The preceding definitions are taken from dictionary.com

ASSESSMENT

Vocabulary bingo is a group activity which allows you to assess vocabulary learning and comprehension, through constant repetition of definitions. This strategy employs a student's thinking/reasoning skills, ability to make decisions, and general vocabulary knowledge. It is an excellent way to reinforce vocabulary learning before, during, or after reading.

BINGO

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