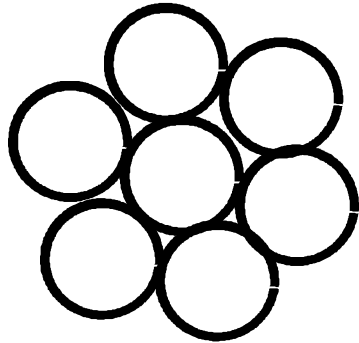


MEANINGFUL VOCABULARY INSTRUCTION

Helping students focus on important vocabulary from a story can be accomplished in several ways. Allowing them to know the words they need to know before reading enhances the possibility of retention of those words as well as comprehension of the passage. The following activities accomplish this task and provide motivation as well.

1.



Prediction Poppers

Give each student a strip of 7 colored dots (these are about an inch in diameter and are used to mark. Students are instructed to write words that might appear in the text entitled _____). Place the colored “word” stickers on the flat side of a circle of bubble wrap being careful not to puncture the bubble wrap. There will be plenty of time for that. As the text is read aloud, they are to pop any bubble that has a word on it which is in the text. After the text is over, the students are to write or tell the words they were able to pop and use that word in a sentence about the story. After that is completed, they are then allowed to write sentences about the story using the unpopped previously predicted words. If they are successful, they are allowed to pop those bubbles as well.

2.

Possible Sentences

Give the students a short list of words from a text they will soon read. Student may work alone or in groups to develop possible sentences that show how these words might be used in writing about this topic. During and/or after the reading, students can return to their earlier sentences and revise them so they accurately reflect the information heard in the reading. Following the reading they can use these words as a beginning word bank for writing about the topic.