

"Daily Word"

(Vocabulary)

Why?

- Students develop vocabulary by discussing and using words both after their initial introduction in context and when they relate the new words to prior knowledge.
- To increase knowledge and retention of new vocabulary words.

How?

- Gather materials: dictionaries and "Daily Word" handout.
- Every day (or several times each week), choose a new or difficult word from one of the class readings or texts.
- Use the attached Daily Word sheet or designate a place in the students' notebooks to record new words.
- Choose several students to be "reference people" who look up a word in one or two dictionaries and report the definitions. Have students decide the appropriate definition of the word.
- Write the chose definition on the board/overhead, and tell students to record it in the box.
- Have students draw a picture or symbol that will help them remember the word.
- Have students independently write a sentence using the word.
- Have students share sentences. Record several of these on the board/overhead. Encourage students to check to make sure they have the correct meaning of the word.
- Have students play a Concentration or Jeopardy game that uses the words, picture/symbols, and definitions.
- Follow-up homework: Use each new word in casual conversation and report how it was used to the class. Encourage the use of the words by including them in assignments, on bulletin boards, or in newsletters.