

DEVELOPING VOCABULARY STRATEGIES



1. TALK, TALK, TALK - AND LISTEN -

One of the best ways to help your child increase their vocabulary is to talk to them. Talk over dinner, talk when you are out and about, talk as you read a book. Use interesting words as you talk and get your child to respond in full sentences.

2. ENCOURAGE READING

The more you child reads, the more words they read. If they are reading fiction, they might be reading interesting descriptions. If they are reading non-fiction, they will be reading key topic words. If your child reads a wide range of different types of books, they will come across a wide range of vocabulary.

3. READ TO YOUR CHILD

Read to your child for as long as they will let you. As you read fiction, ask questions around any unusual words: Is Charlie Bucket *selfish*? Could we say he is *unselfish*?

As you read non-fiction, discuss any key topic words: Can you remember what a *predator* is?

4. DICTIONARY!

It's really helpful if your child has access to a dictionary and a thesaurus at the right level for them, written in language they can understand. A dictionary and thesaurus at home are vital tools in developing and enriching children's language as well as helping to improve their spelling.

