

RECOMMENDATION 1: ACADEMIC LANGUAGE

How-to Step 3: Academic Vocabulary

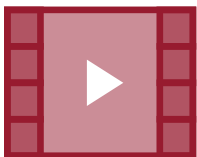


Family Activities for How-to Step 3: Related Words

*Prepare the Family Activity before meeting with families by cutting apart word cards. Let's look at the Family Activity **Synonyms and Antonyms**. You can use this activity to help your child identify and write synonyms and antonyms. It is important to discuss the meanings of any unknown words during this activity. Your child selects a word card, reads it, and identifies another word from a word list that is a synonym or antonym of the original word. *Explain the activity and model an example or two. Include family members in the model, either the whole family or members who volunteer. Answer questions about the Family Activity.* Take this Family Activity home and have fun talking about synonyms and antonyms.*

*Prepare the Family Activity, **Talk About Words**, before meeting with families by cutting apart word cards and organizing them by sets in separate plastic sandwich bags. Explain to families that each set of words can be identified by the symbol (circle, triangle, square) on each card.*

Let's look at the Family Activity **Talk About Words**. Use one set of words and the activity sheet. It is important to discuss the meanings of any unknown words. The two larger word cards are opposites and go on each end of the activity sheet. Ask your child to read the smaller word cards and place them on the word continuum on the activity sheet in an order that shows a gradual shift in meaning, making a bridge from one opposite to the other. Ask your child to explain why he or she placed the words in that order. *Answer questions about the Family Activity.* Take this Family Activity home and have fun talking about words!



Family Literacy Videos

Let's watch a video of a dad and his son talking about synonyms and antonyms. Review the key points before or after the video. *Answer family questions about the video.*

1.3 Synonyms and Antonyms (5:30)

Key Points about the Video

- Dad makes sure that his son knows what synonyms and antonyms are by asking him to give examples before beginning the activity.
- Dad explains the meanings of words that may be unfamiliar (for example, **courteous**) and uses words in sentences that his son can relate to (for example, "Your sister comes into your room and **ruins** your Legos.")
- Dad asks his son to use words in sentences to make sure that his son understands the meaning of each word.

Let's watch a video of a mom and her daughter talking about the meanings of words. *Review the key points before or after the video. Answer family questions about the video.*