



Word Bird

HomeWork in **ACT**ion
Activities Completed Together

Word Bird offers opportunities for parents and children to experience valuable learning experiences that result in cumulative increases in children’s vocabulary. It provides a non-intrusive way to cultivate learning and offer parallel support for increasing reading competencies and skills. activity

This pre–K–12 activity can become a standard endeavor involving children and parents in ongoing vocabulary building. The activity, when completed daily or on a regular basis, supports vocabulary/word building experiences for students. Over time, beginning with pre–K and continuing through each grade level, regularly implemented by parents and children, this broadens their vocabulary and word comprehension.

Activity Timing

3–5 minutes

Activity Description

Initially, the parent draws a picture of a colorful bird character or finds a picture of a bird. Using a large piece of paper or poster board, print the name "WORD BIRD" and these statements:

The word is:

*Parent identifies **single syllable words**, initially, beginning with those known or learned from sight or having been shared.*

The word means:

*Parent **reads** the word with the child; helps them describe its **meaning**.*

My sentence using the word:

*Parent **reads** the word with the child; helps them understand its **meaning**.*

A new word, is presented each day and shared by parent and child together. Subsequently, the child learns the procedure and is able to read the word and complete the questions independently.

Grades 1–3

- Parent identifies single or multi-syllabic word(s) to be used, based on general list available from instructional materials, from student and parent interests and explorations.

Grades 4–8

- Parent identifies words from diverse sources, including information offered during instruction, from discussions, expressed interests.

Grades 9–12

- Parent can identify words, using traditional and diverse sources, including curriculum and students' expressed areas of interest.

Child(ren) can take the lead (grades 1–12) in developing diverse, unique, creative "Word Bird" renderings.

Activity Variation can include having the child provide the word for the "Word Bird" and the parent completing the activity.

Activity Rewards Create a "grab bag" of small, inexpensive items that the child(ren) can choose from when successfully completing the activity within the time frame. The use of rewards could continue with increased emphasis on items of varied and diverse interest. These may include small gifts and services deemed appropriate and reasonable (e.g. completion of a chore or favor for them, extra time online or on cell phone, etc.).