

## *Playing With Vocabulary Words Activities*

### **Oral Stories**

A quick three to five minute lesson involves having student use the words orally. Have someone start a story, using as many words from the vocabulary list as possible in one minute. Have someone continue the story for another minutes, and then someone else finish for one more minute. See how many words the class members can use, total, in three minutes.

### **Quickie Skits**

Break the students into small groups of about five students each. Give the groups 10 minutes to come with a short skit that uses as many vocabulary words as possible. (Then they act out the skits).

### **Drawing**

See if students can draw the meaning of a word, using the word itself. (Example: draw macabre with blood dripping down).

### **Categories**

After study a few lists, have students work in small groups to categorize the words, placing at least three words in each category. Some examples include: "adjectives," "words that begin with t," "words that describe someone who is mad," "words used to describe someone negatively," etc...

### **A Novel Approach**

Ask students to apply their vocabulary words to a novel (or short story) they are reading in class. Example: Daisy Miller was a *vivacious* young woman who was always into one thing or another. Miss Havisham was a *haughty* woman whom no one liked.

### **Journal Topics**

Have students pick words from the vocabulary list that definitely *do* and definitely *do not* describe themselves. Ask them to elaborate.

### **Sell It**

Divide the class into small groups and give each one an assigned vocabulary word. Ask them to imagine being an ad agency hired to sell the word to the rest of the class. Give them time to come up with a commercial that will show the word's usefulness and meaning.

### **Dialogue**

Ask students to write a two or three-person dialogue or conversation using all the words on a vocabulary list. Or have them design a short comic strip that includes all the words.

### **Newspaper Captions**

Cut out several newspaper or magazine photographs. Ask student to come up with captions that include several vocabulary words.

### **Write a Poem**

Make a two to four line-rhyming poem for each word.

Example: Mom was indignant,  
My father was mad,  
I got grounded,  
and I was sad.

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