

# Vocabulary Mapping: Scaffolding for struggling readers

CALI Reads

Struggling readers and students with LD often do not read as extensively as their typical peers (Bryant, Goodwin, Bryant, & Higgins), which results in limited opportunities to develop vocabulary. These students need much more explicit instruction and more practice opportunities than do typical learners in order to learn words effectively (Bulgren, Graner, & Deshler, 2013; Elleman, Lindo, Morphy, & Compton, 2009). In this handout, we share ways to make Vocabulary Maps more explicit and scaffolded for struggling readers and students with LD.

## INTRODUCE THE WORD

1. Break the word into easy to pronounce parts
  - a. e.g., *Prohibit* = pro – hib – it
2. Draw attention to how the word is spelled and word parts students are already familiar with
  - a. e.g., *pro* in *prohibit*

## STUDENT-FRIENDLY DEFINITION

1. Use clear simple definitions that characterizes how the word is typically used
2. Use short definitions or synonym words and/or phrases to support struggling students
  - a. e.g., *Prohibit* = Not allow

## EXAMPLE CONTEXTS

- Keep sentences short and simple
  - Sometimes you may need to use 2 or 3 short sentences to illustrate the context
- Design contexts that are familiar and interesting to students
- Use pictures to help convey meaning

### Prohibit

#### Example 1

- Swimming was **prohibited** because of the jellyfish in the water.



#### Example 2

- You have to **prohibit** some items in lab in order to keep the lab safe.



## TURN AND TALKS

### Multiple choices Turn and Talk: Prohibit

If you have strict parents, what would they **prohibit** at your house?



- A) Getting straight A's
- B) Throwing knives
- C) Watching TV at full volume at 2:00 AM
- D) Using manners

### Sentence frame Turn and Talk: Prohibit

If you have strict parents, what would they **prohibit** at your house?



They would **prohibit** \_\_\_\_\_ at the house.

### Sentence starter with multiple choices Turn and Talk: Prohibit

If you have strict parents, what would they **prohibit** at your house?



They would **prohibit** ....

- A) Cell phones at the dinner table
- B) Talking with your mouth full
- C) Going to bed at midnight

### Sentence starter Turn and Talk: Prohibit

If you have strict parents, what would they **prohibit** at your house?



They would **prohibit** ....