

Activity #16 (Part 1 of 3)

Lesson Plan: Reading: Bridging the Vocabulary Gap (designed for intermediate level learners (4.0-8.9))

Introduction:

Intermediate level adult learners (4.0-8.9) often have words in their oral vocabulary that they may not recognize in print. For example, when asked for the meaning of the word “exhausted,” they may be able to supply it, based on their life experiences, and to apply their knowledge of that word in a sentence. However, when they see the word “exhausted” in printed text, they may not recognize it. That's why they need guidance and practice in bridging the gap from oral vocabulary to written vocabulary.

Objective: Students will develop print-based vocabulary skills and practice in applying those skills to make text more meaningful.

Materials:

photocopies of the lists of vocabulary words shown below

COZY	UNCOMFORTABLE	TRIO	COINCIDENCE	
AGREEABLY	HEIGHT	APPARENTLY	LUKEWARM	
ANXIOUS	BEIGE	EXPECTATION	COLLAPSED	
DISAPPOINTED	RUDE	HUMID	SIMULTANEOUSLY	RIGID
EXHAUSTED	MASSIVE	CURIOUS	REPAIRED	CAUTIOUS

Procedure:

Teacher:

- Give each student a list of the above words.
- Read each word aloud and ask students to tell you what it means.
- If students are unfamiliar with any word and do not know what it means, tell them what it means.
- Group students into twos or threes.
- Give each group a copy of the Goldilocks story.
- Tell students: *We're going to work on this story together to fill in the blanks with the words from the list. I'll read the first sentence and show you what I want you to do.*
- Teacher reads first sentence,: Once upon a time there was a TRIO of bears.
- Teacher explains: *I chose “trio” because that's the only word that would fit there. As we discussed earlier today, “trio” means three of something. So in this case, it means there were three bears.*
- Teacher says: *Now, I want you to do it with me. Let's read the next sentence together (teacher and students read aloud #2 together). What word do you think will fit here? (Answer: cozy). Why did we choose that word? Because it's the word that fits the best. It describes the cottage. It was a cozy cottage.*
- Teacher says: *Now, I want you to to work with your groups to do the rest of the sentences. Group 1, you do Sentences 3 through 6. Group 2, you do numbers 7 through 10. Group 3, you do numbers 11 through 13. And Group 4, you do numbers 14 through 18. When you're finished, we'll share our work with everyone.*

Activity #16 (Part 2 of 3)

GOLDILOCKS AND THE THREE BEARS as retold by Linda Cox, SIPDC

1. Once upon a time, a _____ of bears (Papa Bear, Mama Bear, and Baby Bear), lived in the middle of the woods.
2. Their cottage was small and _____, just the perfect size for the three of them.
3. One _____ summer morning, the bears sat down at their kitchen table to eat their oatmeal. "It's too hot!" squealed Baby Bear.
4. "This oatmeal needs to cool off a bit," Mama Bear said, and Papa Bear nodded _____.
5. So, the three bears decided to go for a stroll in the woods while their oatmeal cooled. By a strange _____, a _____ little girl named Goldilocks was out walking in the woods.
6. She saw the bears' cute little house and was _____ to meet the owners. She went straight to the door and knocked. Her _____ was that someone to answer, but no one did. She reached for the doorknob and the door opened! So Goldilocks went right in!
7. Goldilocks was very hungry and she hoped she would find something to eat. Sure enough, she was not _____. She saw three bowls and decided to have a taste. First, she took a taste from the great big bowl. "Too hot! she cried.
8. Next, she tried the middle-sized bowl. "Oh my! It's too hot, too!," she said. Then, she had a taste from the tiny little bowl. "Just the way I like it, _____!" she said, and ate every bite.
9. After she had eaten, Goldilocks saw three chairs. She sat down in the great big Papa Bear chair. "Too _____!" she thought.
10. Then, she looked at the middle-sized chair. "Oh, it's _____," she said, "I don't like that color!" So she didn't even try it. .
11. Then, she saw Baby Bear's chair. "I think I'll try this one!" And she sat down so hard that the chair _____ .
12. By now, Goldilocks was starting to feel _____. She climbed up the stairs and found three beds. First, she tried the _____ bed that said "Papa and Mama" on the headboard. "Too big," she said, but she left the blanket pulled back.
13. Then she tried the little Baby Bear bed. "Oh, it feels _____! She fell fast asleep.
14. When the three bears came back from their walk in the woods, they were in for a big surprise. Baby Bear said, "Someone's been eating my breakfast! And I find that very _____!"
15. All three bears went into the living room. Baby bear cried, "Someone's been sitting my chair, and they've broken it! Now it will have to be _____!"
16. Since the three bears did not know who or what might be in their cottage, they very _____ went up the stairs. "Someone's been sleeping in our bed!" said Papa Bear and Mama Bear, _____.
17. "Well, _____ someone is still sleeping in my bed because there she is!" cried Baby Bear in his tiny little voice.

Suddenly, Goldilocks woke up. She ran from the room, down the stairs, out the door, and into the woods, never to return.

The End

Activity #16 (Part 3 of 3)

Answer key:

- 1 trio
- 2 cozy
- 3 humid
- 4 agreeably
- 5 coincidence, curious
- 6 anxious, expectation
- 7 disappointed
- 8 lukewarm
- 9 rigid
- 10 beige
- 11 collapsed
- 12 exhausted, massive
- 13 heavenly
- 14 rude
- 15 repaired
- 16 cautiously, simultaneously
- 17 apparently

Linda Cox, SIPDC – c. 2008

Resource:

[Isabel Beck's Word Tiers – STAR Toolkit](#)