

Ranking Words

Vocabulary Activity

www.The-Room-Mom.com



Ranking Words

View Samples: <http://the-room-mom.com/ranking-words/>



Overview:

Using a group of words related to one theme or topic, students qualify the words from mild to extreme.

Common Core Standards:

4.RFS.3, 4.SL.1, 4.L.4, 4.L.5, 4.L.6

Materials:

White paper (white cardstock if available)

Class set of white envelopes (coin envelopes work really well)

Class set of paint chips (source = Lowe's, Home Depot)

Dictionaries (paper or online)

Directions:

1. Print the Ranking Words list and cut the words into strips (pp. 3-6). Keep each themed group together.
2. Place each cluster of words in an envelope and write the common theme or topic on the front.
3. Students work in pairs or small groups to rank the words in the envelopes from mildest to most extreme.
4. Once students finish ranking their word groups, they copy the words onto the paint chips in order. The most mild word appears on the light end of the paint chip, and the most extreme word goes on the darkest portion of the paint chip. The paint chip allows for six words. Some word groupings contain more than six words, so students decide which words were less effective and eliminate the extras.

WARNING: Some students simply eliminate the unfamiliar words, so they do not have to reach for a dictionary.

5. Put all words on a binder ring to create a class thesaurus. Display the paint chips in the classroom, so students can use these while writing.



Extensions:

- Build analogies (synonym or antonym or word families)
- Do not provide the main topic/themes on the front of the envelope and ask students to create a heading for the words in the envelope.
- In a writing activity, challenge students to include 3 (or more) variations of the same word (said, murmured, whispered, etc).



Additional Information

- If you find this lesson useful, please leave feedback, and I would appreciate a follow. I am building my TpT store and will be adding additional ELA resources often.
(<http://www.teacherspayteachers.com/Store/TheRoommom>)
- Please e-mail theroommomct@gmail.com after purchase if you have any questions or suggestions.
- Thank you <http://the3amteacher.blogspot.com/> for the fancy border on the cover page.

Topic: Heat

hot

sizzling

tepid

blistering

warm

scorching

sweltering

Topic: Cold

cold

arctic

chilly

icy

frigid

shivery

frosty

Topic: Hunger

hungry

starved

ravenous

famished

full

satisfied

stuffed

gorged

Topic: Light

bright

glaring

sparkly

dazzling

dim

faint

blinding

luminous

Topic: Speed

fast

speedy

rapid

slow

glacial

swift

lightning

accelerate

Topic: Thickness

thick

dense

soupy

thin

impenetrable

tenuous

sheer

hyperfine

Topic: Energy

lazy

hyper

idle

busy

active

engaged

energetic

lethargic

Topic: Length

long

short

endless

chronic

clipped

fleeting

brief

curt

Topic: Anger

angry

furious

aggravated

livid

huffy

stormy

irate

mad

Topic: Happiness

happy

cheerful

blissful

ecstatic

content

euphoric

joyful

elated

delighted

Topic: Kindness

nice

kind

polite

friendly

charitable

benevolent

kind-hearted

sweet

Topic: Meanness

mean

malicious

unkind

cruel

nasty

awful

contemptible

Topic: Obedience

tame

docile

broken

calm

violent

wild

undomesticated

feral

housebroken

Topic: Money

cheapskate

miser

generous

scrooge

tightwad

charitable

misanthrope

lavish

squander

Topic: Speaking

said

state

utter

whisper

scream

murmur

shout

announce

vent

Topic: Impression

astounding

mediocre

horrible

fair

amazing

fantastic

great

tolerable

OK