



WHICH WORDS ARE WORTH TEACHING?

Focus on high-value words, not every new word.



THE IDEA

Not all words need to be taught.

Focus on words that are useful, repeated and important for understanding.

This helps students build a smaller, stronger vocabulary.



IN THE CLASSROOM

- Choose key words from your topic.
- Look for words that are useful and repeated.
- Teach in context.
- Give time to use the words.
- Use in speaking and writing.

1



**SPOT
KEY WORDS**

Choose high-value words.



Important
for the topic



Used
often



Useful
across lessons

2



**USE A
SUBJECT EXAMPLE**

Pick 2–3 key words.

absorb

release

energy



3



**PRACTISE
AND APPLY**

Use the words in context.

Plants **absorb**
sunlight and
release energy.



WHY IT WORKS

- Builds useful, lasting vocabulary.
- Supports understanding.
- Works in every subject.



EAL UPGRADE

Choose 2–3 high-value words this lesson and plan how to use them.



TRY IT TOMORROW

Pick two key words from your next lesson and teach them in context.



TEACHER LANGUAGE

"Which words are important?"
"Will this word be useful later?"
"Where else might we use it?"

DUNCAN ROSE

EAL • LANGUAGE • LEARNING