



WordGen ELEMENTARY

Grades 4 & 5

24 two-week units organized around a central question

Developed by teams of researchers and practitioners

Tested in a broad range of classrooms

Promotes academic vocabulary and deep text comprehension skills when systematically implemented

Boosts the quality of classroom discussion

Interdisciplinary Program to Support Academic Literacy and Practices

Word Generation for grades 4 and 5 is comprised of twelve two-week units, with 40-50 minute lessons each day. It expands students' background knowledge and academic vocabulary, while emphasizing 21st century learning practices such as argumentation, analytic reasoning, reading to find evidence, oral discussion, and writing.

Each unit introduces approximately 5–6 high-utility academic “focus words” and is designed to offer a variety of texts, word-learning activities, writing tasks, and debate and/or discussion opportunities. Each unit begins with a video newscast and a “Reader’s Theater” that introduces multiple perspectives on a high-interest topic. Students read, discuss, debate, and write about each topic, using the focus words.

INSTRUCTIONAL ACTIVITIES THAT SUPPORT CONTENT-AREA KNOWLEDGE:

- ▶ Action News
- ▶ Reader’s Theater
- ▶ Word Study
- ▶ Ask the Expert (4th) or Journals and Journeys (5th)
- ▶ Informational Text
- ▶ Math
- ▶ Discussion/Debate
- ▶ Writing

SAMPLE TOPICS:

- ▶ What is fair?
- ▶ Who should decide what we eat?
- ▶ When is it acceptable to break the rules?
- ▶ Where do I belong?
- ▶ Why do we fight?
- ▶ Do we need laws to regulate our behavior?



ALL MATERIALS AND TEACHER SUPPORTS FREELY AVAILABLE!

wordgen.serpmedia.org

also available: WordGen Weekly | SciGen | SoGen

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