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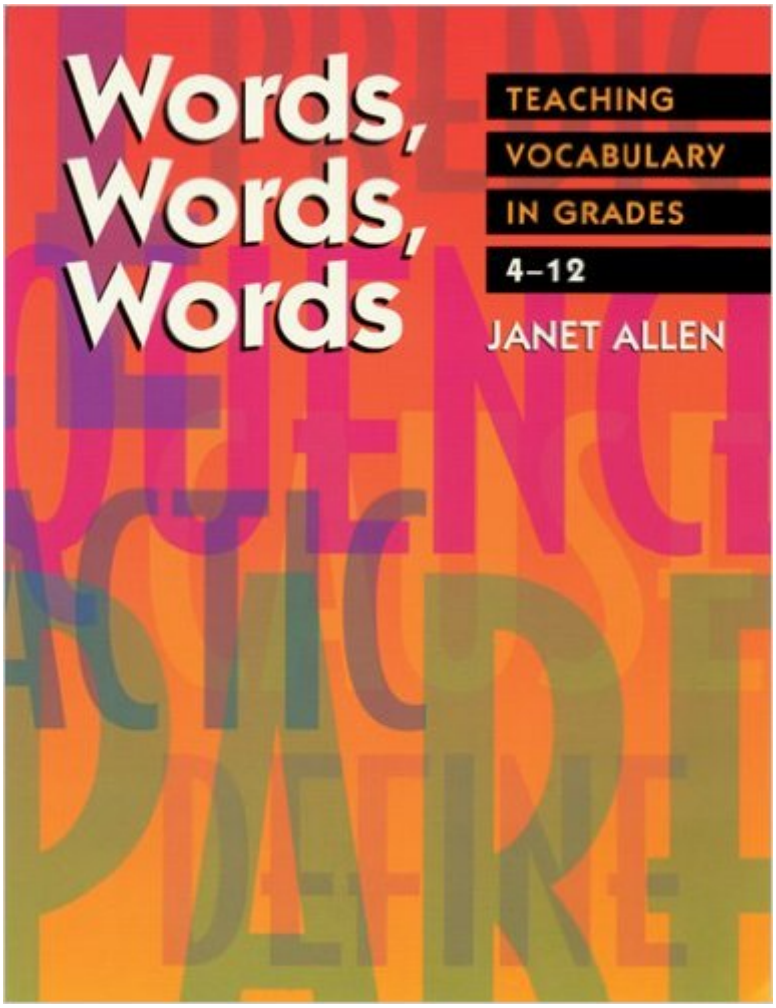
Words, Words, Words: Teaching Vocabulary In Grades 4-12



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Synopsis

Do you spend hours creating word lists and weekly vocabulary tests only to find that your students have 'forgotten' the words by the following week? Janet Allen and her students were frustrated with the same problem. Words, Words, Words describes the research that changed the way she and many other teachers teach vocabulary. It offers educators practical, research-based solutions for helping students fall into new language, learn new words, and begin to use those words in their speaking and writing lives.This book offers teachers detailed strategy lessons in the following areas:activating and building background word knowledge;making word learning meaningful and lasting;building concept knowledge;using word and structural analysis to create meaning;using context as a text support;making reading the heart of vocabulary instruction.Words, Words, Words provides educators with a strong research base, detailed classroom-based lessons, and graphic organizers to support the strategy lessons. At a time when teachers are struggling to meet content standards in reading across the curriculum, this book offers some practical solutions for meeting those standards in ways that are meaningful and lasting.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Janet Allen has done a terrific job of blending theory with practice. Taking the last twenty years of research on vocabulary, Allen synthesizes the major guiding principles and illustrates a variety of strategies for helping students to acquire and develop vocabulary. As always, Allen writes in a clear, reader-friendly, no-nonsense style--a refreshing change from many of the language arts books in

the field. As a reading specialist for the past twenty years, I highly recommend her new book.

Regardless if you are teaching elementary school or middle school, you have students in your classroom who are poor readers and writers. Janet Allen's book -- all of them, for that matter -- are comprehensive guides to providing tips and strategies on how to assist them to "own their learning." So many pages of this book are folded down, as a means to remind me to use the strategy in my own classroom. Her book recommendations are also very handy, especially when you want to model different instructional strategies on learning new vocabulary while reading.I can't say enough about this book and the rest of Allen's books without sounding like I am repeating myself. As an educator, I value good books that help me to become a better teacher -- this is such a book. You will not be disappointed.

An excellent resource for all teachers. There are lots of ideas to help activate students background knowledge. There are ideas to teach context clues, words walls, prefixes, suffixes, and roots.My favorite section was an idea on how to use alphabet books with older students. I plan to incorporate this lesson in my classroom.All teachers should buy this book. This is also a great book for a professional book study.

This is a great book that explains how students learn new words and build their vocabulary. It gives you strategies that will allow students to hold onto what they learn and begin to use new vocabulary in their everyday language. Excellent for professional development.

Words, Words, Words: Teaching Vocabulary in Grades 4-12 is an excellent resource for teachers. Janet Allen has written a book that is so practical and rather easy to follow. Chapter three entitled Alternatives To, Look it Up in the Dictionary was my favorite chapter. Believe it or not we still have teachers today telling students to look-up words in the dictionary that they don't know the meaning of or how to spell. This book offers a wide variety of teaching vocabulary. Graphic organizers are highly important to Janet Allen. I say that because her book is splashed from cover to cover with ingenious ways to use graphic organizers to teach vocabulary. I think this book is a valuable resource for fourth through twelfth grade teachers to own. I obtained my copy from a seller on for a reasonable price. The book arrived just six days later in excellent condition.

Full disclosure: I think Janet Allen is a genius.I love this book because not only does she spell out all

the problems she had when she was teaching; she also tells us all the steps she went through to make her students more successful and why she took them. It was reassuring to know that someone else was going through the same problems I was experiencing and encouraging to know they could be resolved.Good teacher that she is, Allen includes lots of examples to illustrate her points and several templates in the appendix for us to use too. I appreciated not having to reinvent the wheel.After reading this book, I tried many of her suggestions. They work! The problem is that if you’re on a pacing plan like we now are, you may not get the results she does because her method takes time, as all good teaching does. But the book is still worthwhile, because she gives you soooo many ideas.This book and Yellow Brick Roads are essential for any language arts teacher.

I absolutely love this book and all the great templates and ideas it gives you to help students comprehend and retain vocabulary words. Definitely beats the way I learned vocab words back then...route memorization!

This is a must-have for teaching vocabulary in grades 4-12! It includes teaching theory, classroom activities, games, and about 20 pages of reproducible pages for student use.

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