Words to Remember –

*Charlotte’s Web*

**Essential Questions**
- WHAT IS A DIRECT QUOTATION?
- WHAT DOES A CHARACTER’S WORDS REVEAL ABOUT THE CHARACTER?

**Learning Intention / Overview**
This activity will allow students to think about several key quotes from Charlotte’s Web. This activity would work great as a pre-reading assessment, since it would allow students to reflect on what the words really reveal about the character BEFORE they truly get to know the characters. As students think about how spoken language creates personalities, they will gain more insight into the characters that entertain us throughout E. B. White’s book, *Charlotte’s Web*.

**Methods / Teaching Strategies**
- Group work

**Assessment of Learning**
- Words to Remember worksheet
- Research Project created by student

**How might you customize or alter this lesson?**

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**Online Resources:**
- [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iPnYfwLOw84](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iPnYfwLOw84)
1. Ask students to think about the words: direct quotation.

2. Allow students to share what they think a direct quotation is. Record their responses on the board.

3. Now, ask students to record five statements that they remember a friend or family member saying to them yesterday or today.

4. Explain to students that these exact words that they recorded are direct quotations.

5. Show students that direct quotations are written using quotation marks to surround the speaker’s exact words.

6. If you are using the “Words to Remember” activity as a pre-reading strategy, explain to students that you are going to be reading a chapter book. But, that before, you actually read the book, you want them to consider what the characters’ words say about them.

7. Provide the following example:
   - The angry man yelled, “Get out of here, you kids!”

8. Ask students to come up with three words that are NOT in the sentence to describe the man.

9. Sample responses include: tired, mad, annoyed with kids…

10. Explain to students that you are going to show them some direct quotations from the book that you are going to be reading with them. They are going to think of three words or phrases to describe the character that said these words.

11. Remind them NOT to use words that are in the sentence.
Read each of the direct quotations. In the space provided, include three words of phrases to describe the character that said these words.

1. “You’re a pig! Pig equals slop. The rat is happy!”

____________________          ___________________          ___________________

2. “You made me your friend and in doing so, you made a spider beautiful to everyone in that barn.”

____________________          ___________________          ___________________

3. “No. Good things come to those who find it and shove it in their mouth!”

____________________          ___________________          ___________________

4. “How could this have happened? A miracle in a time when we don’t see many miraculous things!”

____________________          ___________________          ___________________

5. “Templeton, Charlotte is very sick.”

____________________          ___________________          ___________________
Read each of the direct quotations. In the space provided, include three words of phrases to describe the character that said these words.

1. “You’re a pig! Pig equals slop. The rat is happy!”
   selfish   lonely   mean

2. “You made me your friend and in doing so, you made a spider beautiful to everyone in that barn.”
   caring   insect   smart

3. “No. Good things come to those who find it and shove it in their mouth!”
   self-centered   hungry   loud

4. “How could this have happened? A miracle in a time when we don’t see many miraculous things!”
   hopeful   surprised   shocked

5. “Templeton, Charlotte is very sick.”
   caring   sad   friendly