Lesson Plan

100 First Words for Little Geniuses

Story Summary

100 First Words for Little Geniuses stimulates language! This book brings on the inspirations of geniuses as it gives 100 amazing words to add to their vocabulary... and their parents as well. 100 First Words for Little Geniuses is for voracious learners who have already mastered basic vocabulary and are relentlessly curious. This enriched word book satisfies any budding genius’s appetite for knowledge with complex, scientific, and scholarly words. Categories include the laboratory, musical instruments, the human body, and space.

Lesson Focus
Genius Vocabulary

Activity Ideas

Vocabulary Routine
Create a vocabulary routine for children to add the words to their oral and written vocabulary.

Flashcards
Make your own flashcards to memorize words from 100 First Words for Little Geniuses.

Arranging Words
Provide a list of words and ask children to arrange in like categories.

Additional activities can be found in the following pages of this document.
The Importance of an Increased Vocabulary

Words make a difference. Children who are exposed to rich and robust language experiences, enter school with essential language skills needed to be successful readers. Children who enter school with limited exposure to rich vocabulary generally struggle with reading in school. It is important to plan experiences that will grow children's vocabulary. Read alouds provide a perfect context to grow children's vocabulary every day.

Children's literature contains words that children hear in everyday conversations as well as decontextualized language—words and ideas outside of everyday use. Vocabulary is often divided into three tiers:

**Tier One** words are the most basic words which rarely need instruction in school (happy, sad, run, etc.); **Tier Two** words are high frequency words, important to academic success (radiant, enormous, delicate); **Tier Three** words are low frequency words used in specific domains (quadrilateral, neutron, photosynthesis). Read alouds often build oral language skills as well as vocabulary skills.

The vocabulary in *100 First Words for Little Geniuses* are mainly Tier 3 words specific to genius language.

Considerations for choosing which words to teach:

- Which words will children find interesting?
- Which words will be useful in children’s lives?
- Is the word familiar to the children?
- The number of words to focus on is dependent upon your audience.
**Instructional Strategies**

### Before reading

- **Specific word introduction**
  - Reuse the picture card introduced before reading.
  - Begin a targeted discussion about the word.
  - Ask the children to repeat the word.

- **Specific word repeated**
  - Define in child friendly terms.
  - Ask children to repeat the word.
  - Define in child friendly terms.

### Specific word examples used outside of the story

- Read the page emphasizing the vocabulary word and discuss what it means in the story.
- Read the page emphasizing the vocabulary word and discuss what it means in the story.
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### Specific word examples from the children

- If verbalization of this step is difficult for the children, ask them to act it out.

### After reading

- Ask children to repeat the word again.

### During reading

- Ask the children to watch and listen for the word as the book is read.
- Pause when the word is used and give the children a very brief child friendly definition.
- Use a picture or object with the word printed for the children to see.
- Choose words.

### Vocabulary Introduction

- Today, one of the words we read was ___________.
  - Begin a targeted discussion about the word.
  - Reuse the picture card introduced before reading.
  - Reuse several examples of the word as it is used outside of the story.
  - Give several examples of the word as it is used outside of the story.
Use the coloring sheet to color and learn some of the words from 100 First Words for Little Geniuses.

- static electricity
- endothermic
- transistor
- integral
- sonnet
- Pavlov's dog
- Schrödinger's cat
- catalyst
- entropy
Word Search

Find the words from the 100 First Words for Little Geniuses word bank in the word search below.

The word can be positioned in all directions, written from left to right, from right to left, horizontally, vertically, and diagonally, but is always on one straight line.

Word Bank

- ACCELERATION
- ANGSTROM
- ARRAY
- ASTEROID
- BEAKER
- BLACK
- CAPACITOR
- CATALYST
- CELL
- CONSTELLATION
- DIFFUSION
- EIGENVECTOR
- ETHOS
- FORMULA
- FRICTION
- HISTOGRAM
- HOLE
- INERTIA
- INTEGRAL
- LOOP
- MEDIAN
- MITOCHONDRIA
- MITOSIS
- MOSFET
- PLASMA
- QUADRATIC
- RELATIVITY
- SONNET
- SPECTROSCOPY
- TRAGEDY
- TRANSCEND

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Use the template to create your own Geeks Vocabulary Cards. Write the definition on the lines and the word on the back of each card.

You learn from 100 First Words for Little Geniuses, vocabulary cards to help you remember words that you learn from 100 First Words for Little Geniuses.
Decide the Sentence

Use the coded alphabet to decode the words
below and answer the questions.

Coded Alphabet

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Answer

Create your own Sentence

Now, use the coded alphabet to create your
own sentence for your friends to decode.