Reading @ Home

Welcome Bear Creek Families!

This month we will focus on vocabulary words. and using context clues to help define and understand unknown words. Studies have shown that when children are taught to use context clues they become better at figuring out the definitions of words compared to children who are not directly taught this skill (Kuhn & Stahl. 1998).

Children use 'clues' in the sentence to help them figure out an unknown word. this word then becomes a part of their vocabulary.

I have included a simple activity this month that you can do at home with your child to help build their vocabulary and use context clues to define unknown words while they read!

December is the perfect month to snuggle up under a blanket with a good book.

Happy Holidays and happy reading!

—Natalie Geer
Reading Coach

DIRECTIONS:

I have made an example of a word web that you and your child can recreate to help expand their vocabulary.

For Kindergarten through second grade. they will need more support and guidance. Students in third through fifth grade may need your support at first but can use a dictionary or thesaurus once they have practiced it a few times.

When your child identifies an unknown word write it in the middle of a piece of paper. then follow the steps below.

1.DEFINITION: This is where you define the word. What does the word mean?

2. SYNONYM: This is word that means the same as your unknown word. For example happy and joy are synonyms.

3. ANTONYM: This is a word that means the opposite of your unknown word. For example. happy is the antonym of sad.

4. SENTENCE: This is where you put the unknown word in a new sentence using all the information you have learned.

EXAMPLE WORD WEB

1.DEFINITION
To be loyal or commit to a group or cause.

2.SYNONYM
loyalty

WORD
allegiance

3.ANTONYM
disloyalty

4.SENTENCE
I pledge allegiance to my country.