# VOCABULARY CURRICULUM

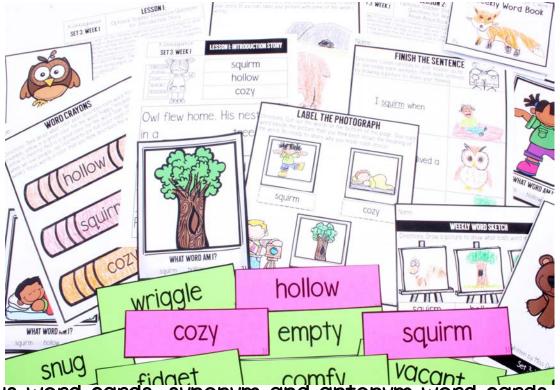
kindergarten set 3



## **WEEKLY MATERIALS INCLUDE:**



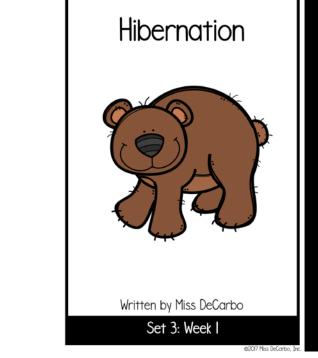
At-A-Glance Weekly Guide and Weekly Teacher Word Guide for easy planning and teacher instruction An original passage and a read-aloud story with detailed teacher language and discussions



Focus word cards, synonym and antonym word cards, oral discussion cards, anchor chart cards, an optional assessment piece, draw and respond application activity, label the photograph printable, digital book, printable book, and MORE!

# DIGITAL BOOKS FOR PC & MAC

with teacher discussion questions



The weekly digital booklet can be projected onto a screen for the entire class to see. It is read by the teacher and includes discussion questions and suggested teaching points. Digital booklets can be opened on any computer that has Microsoft PowerPoint installed.



When an animal hibernates, it "sleeps" or becomes inactive during the winter days.



Bears, squirrels, snakes, bats, and groundhogs are some examples of animals that hibernate.

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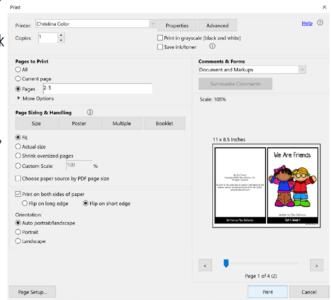
## PRINTABLE VERSIONS OF THE READ-ALOUD BOOKLETS ARE INCLUDED!



#### PRINTING INSTRUCTIONS FOR WEEKLY READ-ALOUD BOOKLETS

If you choose not to use the digital read-aloud story for Lesson 2 this week, I have included printable versions for your convenience. A color version and black  $\xi$  white version is included in this file.

- I. Type in the page numbers you wish to print. If you would like to print the color version of the booklet, you will print pages 2-5. If you wish to print the black \$\xi\$ white version, print pages 6-9.
- 2. Select "Fit" so that the booklet fills as much of the page as possible when it prints. Sometimes, this option may read, "Scale to Fit Paper" on your printing option screen.
- 3. Select "Print on both sides of paper."
- 4. Select "Flip on short edge."
- 5. Print the booklet.
- 6. Fold the printed pages and staple along the left side.



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# EACH WEEK FOLLOWS A CONSISTENT ROUTINE

LESSON I: introduction	Create an anchor chart with your students that displays this week's words and definitions.  Share the introduction story with your students
	Share the introduction story with your students, and complete Lesson I.
LESSON 2: story time	Read the digital (or printable) booklet for the week, and use the discussion questions to guide your conversation with students.
	The students will complete this week's mini book.
LESSON 3:	Add this week's synonyms and antonyms to your anchor chart.
connections	Complete the synonym and antonym activity of your choice.
LESSON 4: word play	Choose an activity from the word play menu.
LESSON 5: application	Students will complete one of the following independent activities:  • "I Can Draw a Story" journal entry  • "Finish the Sentence" activity The students will apply this week's words to their everyday lives. (The teacher could also
	choose an activity off of the alternative options list instead.)

## MASTER LESSON PLANS FOR **YOUR WEEKLY ROUTINE**

#### Kindergarten INTRODUCTION

#### **LESSON PLAN 1: INTRODUCTION STORY**

- pocket chart
- sentence strips
- chart paper
- marker
- word cards
- introduction story for Lesson I

"I have a story that I want to share wi

I'm going to need your help to find som

Do NOT read the word cards yet. First, "blank" whenever there is an empty space

again. Ask the students, "Does anyone kn

This exercise helps students draw from

already know. The exercise also exposes

otherwise thought of, used, or shared,

It also allows them to put these known

as they can think of that make sense in

routine with the remaining sentences in

Now, flip each word card over (or remo

Set Up: Write the week's introduction story on sentence strips, and place them in a pocket chart for the whole group to see. You can also write them largely on an anchor chart. Draw a blank (\_\_\_) on your sentence strips, just as it is shown on the story printable. Place the word cards in a row above or below the pocket chart story. Flip the cards over so that students cannot see them yet. Mix up the order of the word cards. If you would prefer not to use a pocket chart or an anchor chart, place the introduction story printable under a document camera, or display it on a screen. If you're projecting the story on a screen, cover up the focus words with

#### Kindergarten CONNECTIONS

- weekly word chart that words and kid-friendly
- pocket chart
- synonym and antonym

#### Kindergarten STORY TIME

#### Materials:

- digital booklet for this week OR a printable copy (color or black and white)
- student copies of this week's mini book (optional)

LESSON PLAN 3: SYNONYMS &

ANTONYMS

Set Up: This lesson can be completed in a whole-group setting

or a small-group setting. You will be adding synonyms and

antonyms to your weekly word chart (anchor chart) for the

week, so you will want to have it nearby. A pocket chart is

out (laminate if you wish) this week's synonym and antonym

needed if you choose to complete the word sort activity. Cut

#### LESSON PLAN 2: WHOLE-GROUP READ-ALOUD

Set Up: Story time can take place in a whole-group or a smallgroup setting. I prefer to complete this lesson in a whole-group setting so that the entire class can hear and participate in the same discussion about the story and our weekly words.

If you are using the digital booklet, open up the file for the week you are on. The digital booklets are found in the zip folder of this resource. You can open the digital booklets on any computer that has Microsoft PowerPoint installed. When you open the file, the booklet will automatically open up and be ready for use. If you are poklet, both color and black and white printable

ek's booklets are available.

rd chart (anchor chart) that you made with the reference when needed.

o share with you today! It is a different story nelp us learn even more about our new words very carefully and very closely because we in the book and sharing our thoughts.

review and discuss the vocabulary and what is may need to reteach what the vocabulary you created for the week with your students.) icher discussion questions page that will help about the book. Use this scripted teacher der to discuss the words and put them into ssion questions do a nice job of asking the es, and they help them work on comprehension

- includes the week's focus definitions
- word cards for the week

he teacher will engage in a discussion words that are different from the ks. the synonym and antonym list is

#### Kindergarten WORD PLAY

#### Materials:

The materials for this lesson will vary depending on the word play activity you choose to use for the week. Each word play activity has a full sheet of directions. The materials for each activity can be found on those pages.

#### LESSON PLAN 4: WORD PLAY ACTIVITY

word cards.

Set Up: Every week for Lesson 4, you will choose an activity off of word play menu on page 49. These also make excellent review acti

You can choose to work your way through all three activities over next eight weeks and then repeat them, or complete the same act for two or three weeks in a row. Use as many of them or as few them as you would like. The choice is yours! These word play activiti are also wonderful to use as additional or supplemental vocabular activities if you want to mix up your weekly routine or add more activities to it. These word play activities would also make fantastic vocabulary activities that you can complete within a small group in order to challenge, differentiate, or provide extra practice

Boys and girls, today is word play activity day! I'm so excited to have some fun with the words we've been learning this week."

You will then choose a word play activity from the included word play menu. The word play activity options for Set 2 include the following activities:

- Word Wondering
- Word Artist
- Word Sing-Along
- Word Theater Word Chat
- Word Chant

Each word play activity has its own designated instruction/lesson plan page. I have typed the directions, set-up, and materials you will need for each activity. Read through the act of your choice, and complete it with your students.

Important: The word play activities are designed to promote creativity and critical thinkin a result, it's important to include as many synonyms and antonyms as you can within each the word play activities you complete with your students. Simply teaching our students on three focus words will limit their vocabulary acquisition. This resource is set up to be as expansive as you make it. The activities and lesson plans can accommodate more than the three focus words and even more than the number of synonym and antonyms I've listed weekly teacher word guides. Feel free to expose your students to as many synonyms and antonyms as you'd like, and encourage them to use those words during the word play act Your students do not need to be able to read or spell the vocabulary words independentl That is not the goal of this resource. The goal is for our students to see, hear, understar and use as many new Tier 2 words as they can acquire. They will use these words within t everyday lives, apply them to new situations, experiences, and scenarios, and be able to comprehend and apply them as they become more capable, independent readers and wr

If you have extra time throughout the week, feel free to choose any of the word play ac to add to your daily schedule, revisit, and repeat! Have fun playing with words!

#### Kindergarten APPLICATION

#### Materials:

student copies of the week's "I Can Draw a Story" OR the "Finish the Sentence" printable

pencils and crayons anchor chart for this week's words

Set Up: This lesson is completed independently by the students (with guidance from the teacher). You will want to ensure that your weekly word chart (anchor chart) is available for you and your students to refer to if needed. For today's activity, you will choose one of two writing application activities. Choose to have your students complete the "I Can Draw a Story" printable or the "Finish the Sentence" activity. Pass out a copy of the printable you choose for this week to each student. Follow the instructions below for the activity you choose for the week.

#### I CAN DRAW A STORY

Read the story prompt to the students. Each week's story page will have a question for the students to ponder or a prompt that asks them to think about the words in relation to their own lives. The students are writing and sharing their ideas, stories, and connections through illustrations they create. Students who can orally tell stories through their illustrations are developing essential beginning writing skills, oral language abilities, sequential and logical thinking skills, and an understanding of plots and events. This "I Can Draw a Story" activity puts the vocabulary in context for the students, makes it meaningful, and allows them to demonstrate their understanding of the words in their own unique ways. Optional: Have students share their stories with friends or the class

'You will draw a picture to tell your story. Be very detailed in your picture. That means to draw as much as you can in order to tell us what happened in your story.

#### DIFFERENTIATION OPTIONS

You'll notice that at the bottom of each "I Can Draw a Story" printable, there are the three focus words for the week. Depending on the time of the year, your students' ability levels, and your own goals for the lesson, you can encourage the students to label their pictures with the week's focus words. You could also have the students cut out and glue the words onto their story illustrations in order to label them.

#### FINISH THE SENTENCE

For this writing application activity, you will want to read the first sentence aloud to the students and provide time for them to complete their picture. This "Finish the Sentence" activity encourages students to apply the week's focus words to their own everyday lives. Each student's answer (or picture) will likely be different based on individual life experiences and the student's own understanding and ownership of the word. For each sentence, your students will draw their thinking in order to complete the sentence/thought. For example, in the sentence starter, "I am frightened when...", a child might draw a picture of a thunderstorm. The student is showing understanding of the word frightened by communicating that a thunderstorm is something that scares him or her! I highly encourage you to have your students read their sentences out loud in order to focus on oral language skills and practice speaking in complete sentences.

#### DIFFERENTIATION OPTIONS

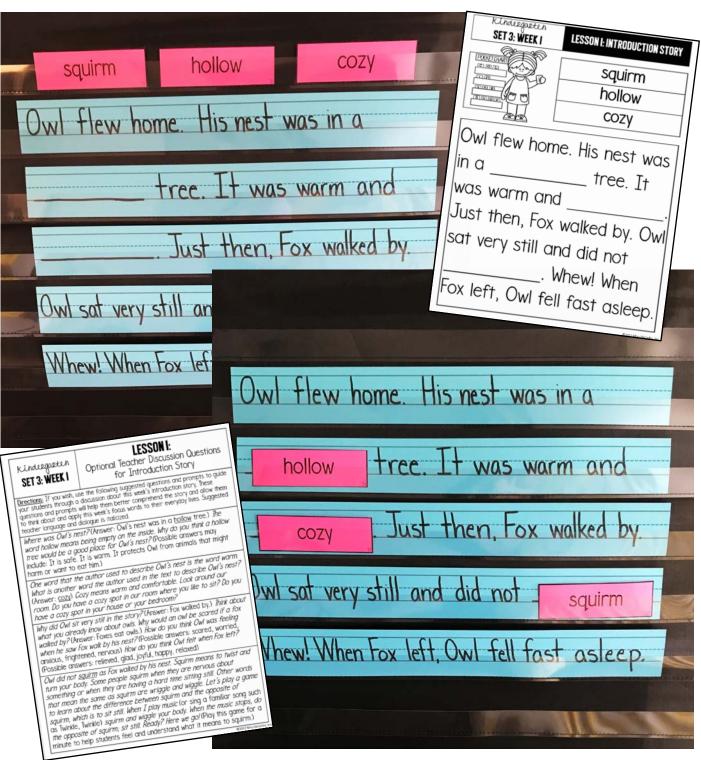
You certainly CAN have your students sound out and write the remainder of each sentence if they are ready for this. The activity is set up for illustrations in case students are not at this level of writing at this point in the school year. We want students to focus on the word's meanings and connections. (A differentiated writing template will be included in a future set.)

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### **LESSON I: INTRODUCTION**

Share the introduction story, and teach new words within context.



### **LESSON 2: STORY TIME**

Read the digital booklet aloud, and complete the mini book.



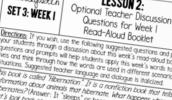
Animals that hibernate Many ani like dark, quiet places to sleep. They like to curl up in warm, cozy places to stay safe in the winter.

are included, too!



bears a hiberna<sup>.</sup>

will hibernate in **hollow** trees or hollow logs.



Kead-Aloud Booklet
your students through a discussion about this week's read-aloud booklet. These
your students through a discussion about this week's read-aloud booklet. These
questions and prompts will hep students apply this week's words to their everyday
lives and think through how the words are all offerent scenarios and think through how the words are all offerent scenarios and inference scenarios. The scenarios and disclope is tallowed information about animals that hierance therefore the scenarios animals that hierance has properly an animal that hierance for the comes inactive during the winter days.)

Let's look book at page 2 Ahrt are some examples of animals that hierance for the animals that hierance. A specially the scenario of animals that hierance?

In what kind of place does an animal fee to Ahrenance? (Animals Tables and Indiana.)

any other animals that internater

In what that of place does an animal like to hibernate? (Answers include dark,
Joe think on animal that his event acry means warm and confortable why do
steep? (Possible answer: The animals hibernate in the winter so that it can
stoy warm and protected from the cold.) Mostly four artifacts or that it can
and casy classroom or in a really big but cold classroom? My? (Answers will

Vacry Vacry

hiberna

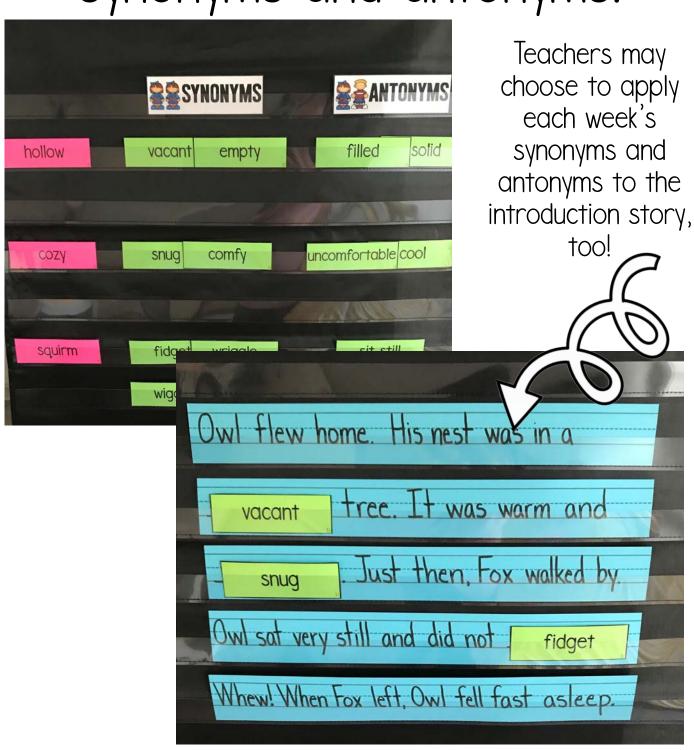
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### **LESSON 3: CONNECTIONS**

Share, discuss, and sort synonyms and antonyms.



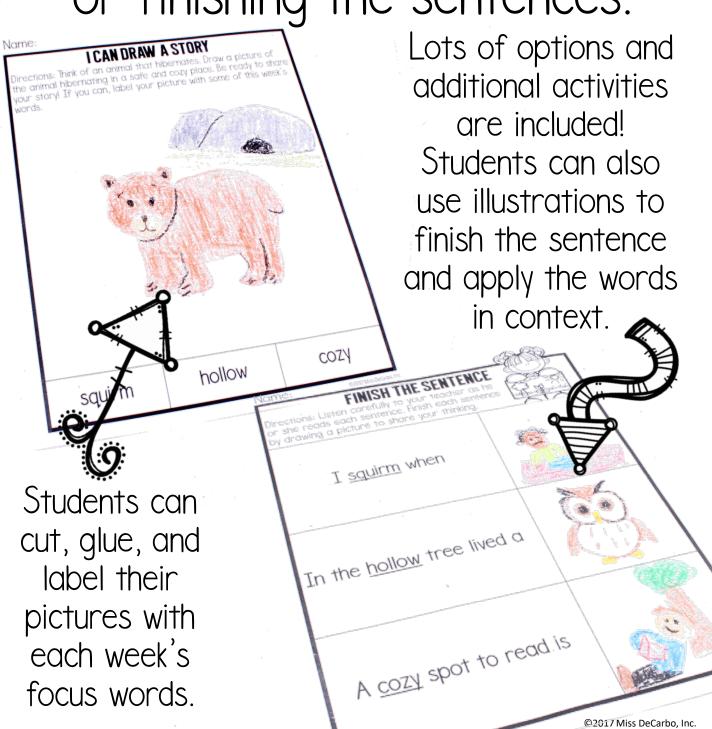
### **LESSON 4: WORD PLAY**

Choose a hands-on activity to practice using the week's words.

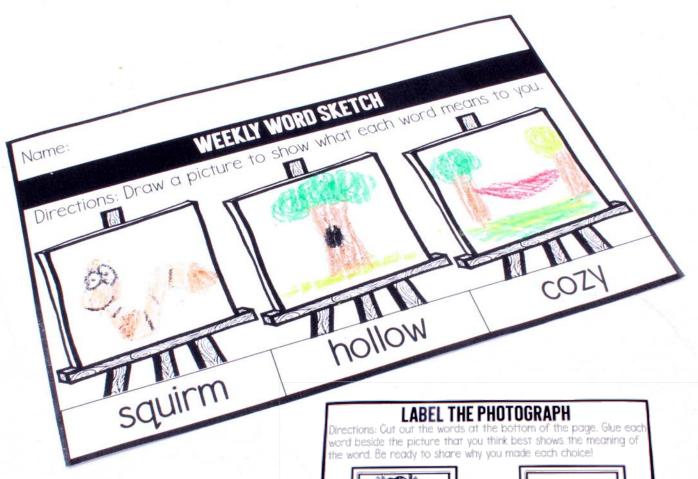


### **LESSON 5: APPLICATION**

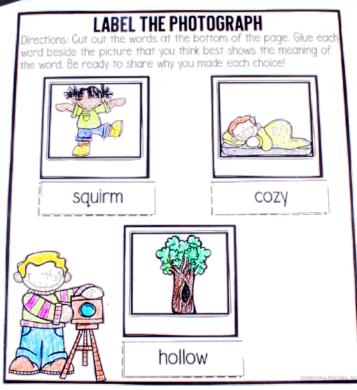
The students will apply the words to their lives by drawing stories or finishing the sentences.



# OPTIONAL WORD SKETCH ASSESSMENTS ARE INCLUDED



Teachers can use the Label the Photograph word play activity as an assessment, too!



# ALTERNATIVE & ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES

This resource can be as flexible or as guided as you would like! Feel free to mix things up a bit during the week by swapping out a weekly lesson plan for any of the following activities, or use any of the following ideas as additional vocabulary activities to enhance your instruction or routine for the week.

Name of Activity	Ideas for Use
Oral Discussion Word Chat Activity	This oral language/class discussion activity encourages critical thinking and fits nicely into Lesson 3 as a follow-up activity, in exchange for the activity in Lesson 4, or as an additional activity to your week.
Label the Photograph	This is a great follow-up to the "Word Chat" activity. It can also be easily used as an independent application activity in exchange for the "I Can Draw a Story" printable.
Vocabulary Notebook	Have students illustrate the vocabulary cards for the week and paste them into personal vocabulary notebooks. Students can write synonyms and antonyms beside each word card in their notebooks.
Finish the Sentence	If you do not use the "Finish the Sentence" activity on Day 5, this makes an excellent additional activity, review activity, or small-group follow-up.
Quick Sketch	The quick sketch page was designed to be used as an optional, end-of-the-week assessment. However, this page can also be used as an additional activity for the week or in exchange for one of the lesson plan activities.

### **KINDER WORD LIST: SET 3**

squirm hollow cozy  ill miserable  squirm journey crowd bumpy toasty pair
hollow cozy bumpy  ill miserable pair
ill toasty miserable pair
miserable pair
fizzy
discuss
review audience
repeat creative
fair brag
amazing stomp
greedy event ©2016 Miss DeCarbo, Inc. All Rights Res

Kindergarten SET 3: WEEK I	AT-A-GLANCE WEEKLY GUIDE		
THEME	Forest Animals		
FOCUS WORDS	squirm		
	hollow		
	соzу	THE PARTY OF THE P	
LESSONI: introduction	Complete "Lesson Plan I: Introduction Story" using this week's words. Use the discussion questions to guide your conversation. Create a chart with your students that displays this week's focus words and their kid-friendly definitions. (Use your "Weekly Teacher Word Guide" for assistance.) If the anchor chart picture that is included in this is it is included in this if you wish.		
LESSON 2: story time	Read "Week   District   Formula   Oklet"   Use the district   Quantity   The district   The dist		
LESSO T: connect is	complete asson Plant Synonyms and Antonyms" using this synonyms and antonyms for this week's ds your class anchor chart. If extra time allows, complete an additional activity or this week's mini book if you didn't complete it yesterday.		
LESSON 4: word play	Choose a word play activity from the word play menu. Follow the directions for the activity you choose. Use this week's focus words and/or synonyms and antonyms.		
LESSON 5: application	Complete this week's "I Can Draw a Story" page <u>OR</u> the "Finish the Sentence" page. Follow the directions on the printable. (You could also choose an alternative activity such as "Label the Photograph" or a word play activity.)		
QUICK CHECK:	(Optional) Complete the quick sketch printable at the end of the week. Use it to assess the students' understanding of each word, or simply use the "Quick Check" as an alternative (or additional) vocabulary activity throughout the week.		

#### THIS WEEK'S TEACHER WORD GUIDE

	definition (v.) to twist and turn your body	
SQUIRM	example sentence	I <u>squirm</u> whenever my dad is tickling me.
300	synonyms	wriggle, wiggle, fidget
	antonyms	sit still
	definition	(adj.) being empty of the hsi
<b>X</b>	example sentence	The rable han nollow pe the
HOLLOW	ATT ATT	empt, a Int, Ifi t
H	Itiple in an J	d down  1 tripped over a <u>hollow</u> spot in the field  and sprained my ankle.

 definition
 (adj.) being warm and comfortable

 example sentence
 On snowy days, I like to get back into my cozy bed and read a book.

 synonyms
 snug, comfy

 antonyms
 uncomfortable, cool

#### **LESSON I: INTRODUCTION STORY**



squirm hollow cozy

Owl flew home. His positivas in a \_\_\_\_\_\_.
was a fina \_\_\_\_\_.
Just then, Fox walked by. Owl sat very still and did not . Whew! When

Fox left, Owl fell fast asleep.

## LESSON I: INTRODUCTION STORY ANSWER SHEET



squirm hollow cozy

Owl flew home. His no Just then, Fox walked by. Owl sat very still and did not squirm . Whew! When Fox left, Owl fell fast asleep.

#### **LESSON I:**

## Optional Teacher Discussion Questions for Introduction Story

<u>Directions</u>: If you wish, use the following suggested questions and prompts to guide your students through a discussion about this week's introduction story. These questions and prompts will help them better comprehend the story and allow them to think about and apply this week's focus words to their everyday lives. Suggested teacher language and dialogue is italicized.

Where was Owl's nest? (Answer: Owl's nest was in a hollow tree.) The word hollow means being empty on the inside. Why do you think a hollow tree would be a good place for Owl's nest? (Possible answers may include: It is safe. It is warm. It protects Owl from animals that hight harm or want to eat him.)

One word that the author used to describe Over mest of the sy warm. What is another word the author used of the text of describe in the sylvent in the sylvent of the sylvent in the sylve

Why did to story? In ever: So walked by.) Think about what you walked by? In swer: Let at Swis.) How do you think Owl was feeling when he saw fox walk by his nest? (Possible answers: scared, worried, anxious, frightened, nervous) How do you think Owl felt when Fox left? (Possible answers: relieved, glad, joyful, happy, relaxed)

Owl did not <u>squirm</u> as Fox walked by his nest. Squirm means to twist and turn your body. Some people squirm when they are nervous about something or when they are having a hard time sitting still. Other words that mean the same as squirm are wriggle and wiggle. Let's play a game to learn about the difference between squirm and the opposite of squirm, which is to sit still. When I play music (or sing a familiar song such as Twinkle, Twinkle) squirm and wiggle your body. When the music stops, do the opposite of squirm; sit still. Ready? Here we go! (Play this game for a minute to help students feel and understand what it means to squirm.)

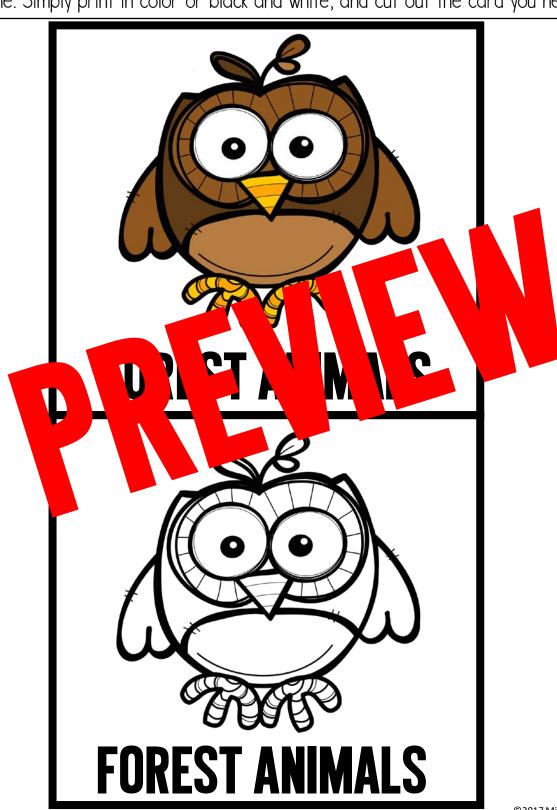
# LESSON I: INTRODUCTION STORY FOCUS WORD CARDS

Cut out the following focus word cards to use with your introduction story for the week.



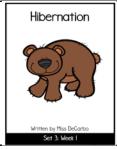
# PICTURE CARD TO USE ON THIS WEEK'S WORD CHART

Optional: You may wish to cut out and display the following picture card that matches this week's theme for your vocabulary anchor chart, if you choose to make one. Simply print in color or black and white, and cut out the card you need.



#### LESSON 2:

Optional Teacher Discussion Questions for Week I Read-Aloud Booklet



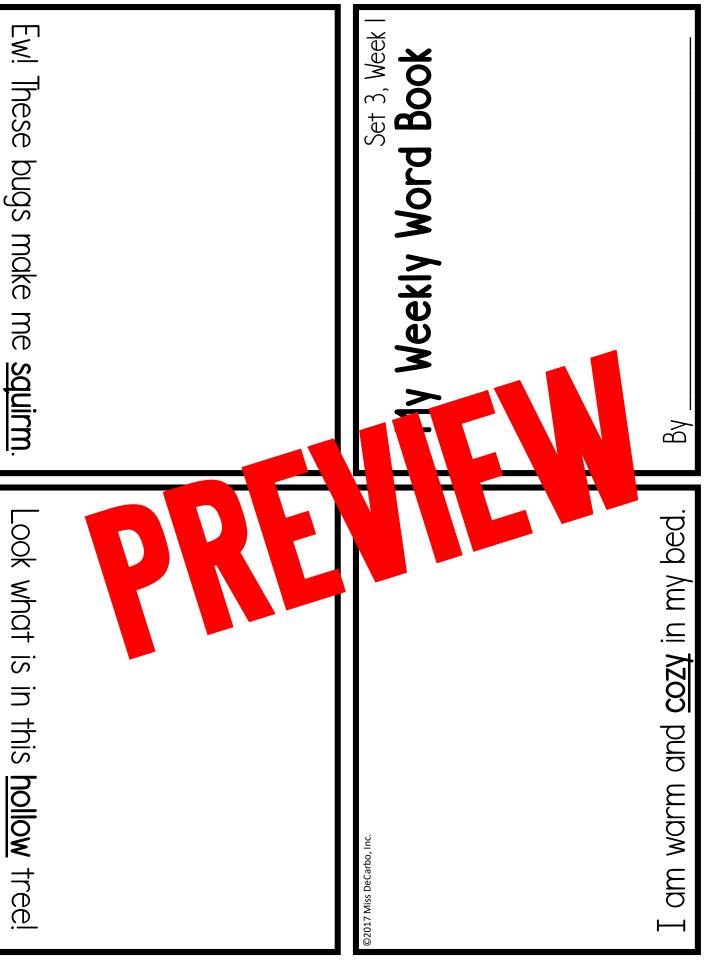
<u>Directions:</u> If you wish, use the following suggested questions and prompts to guide your students through a discussion about this week's read-aloud booklet. These questions and prompts will help students apply this week's words to their everyday lives and think through how the words are used in different scenarios and situations. Suggested teacher language and dialogue is italicized.

This book is called "Hibernation". It is a nonfiction book that tells us information about animals that hibernate. What happens when an animal hibernates? (Answer: It "sleeps" or becomes inactive during the winter days.) Let's look back at page 2. What are some examples of animals that hibernate? (Answers: bears, bats, snakes, squirrels, around og Volunt know any other animals that hibernate?

In what kind of place does an animal like who e? (Answers and dark, quiet, warm, and cozy.) The second of second of some stay war and complete in the him terms of second of the second

According to the text, that are two animals that hibernate in caves or dens? (Answer: bed and foxes) Other animals hibernate in hollow trees or logs. The word hollow means being empty on the inside. Think about an animal that needs to hibernate in the middle of winter for a long time. Why would a hollow log be a good place for a forest animal to hibernate? (Possible answer: The log would block the wind and keep the animal warm and cozy. It would also protect the animal from other animals so that it is safe.)

When an animal is hibernating, it falls into a deep sleep. It does not <u>squirm</u>, or move around a lot. This helps animals save their energy so that they don't need to eat as much in the winter. The word squirm means to twist and turn your body. Yesterday we practiced what it felt like to squirm. When someone tickles me, I squirm! Would seeing a spider make you squirm? Would being bored make you squirm? What else makes you squirm?



squirm

#### LESSON 3: SYNONYM & ANTONYM CARDS

Cut out the synonym and antonym word cards to use with your introduction story.

# wriggle

3.1

3.1

# sit still

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Please note: Three synonyms and one "near antonym" card is included for this word. Wriggle, wiggle, and fidget are provided as synonyms. The card that states "sit still" is provided as the antonym. Kindergarten

SET 3: WEEK I

hollow

LESSON 3: SYNONYM & ANTONYM CARDS

Cut out the synonym and antonym word cards to use with your introduction story.

# empty

3.1



3.1

# filled

3.1

Kindergarten

SET 3: WEEK I

COZY

LESSON 3: SYNONYM & ANTONYM CARDS

Cut out the synonym and antonym word cards to use with your introduction story.

# snug

3.1



# urcomfortable

3

# COO

3.1

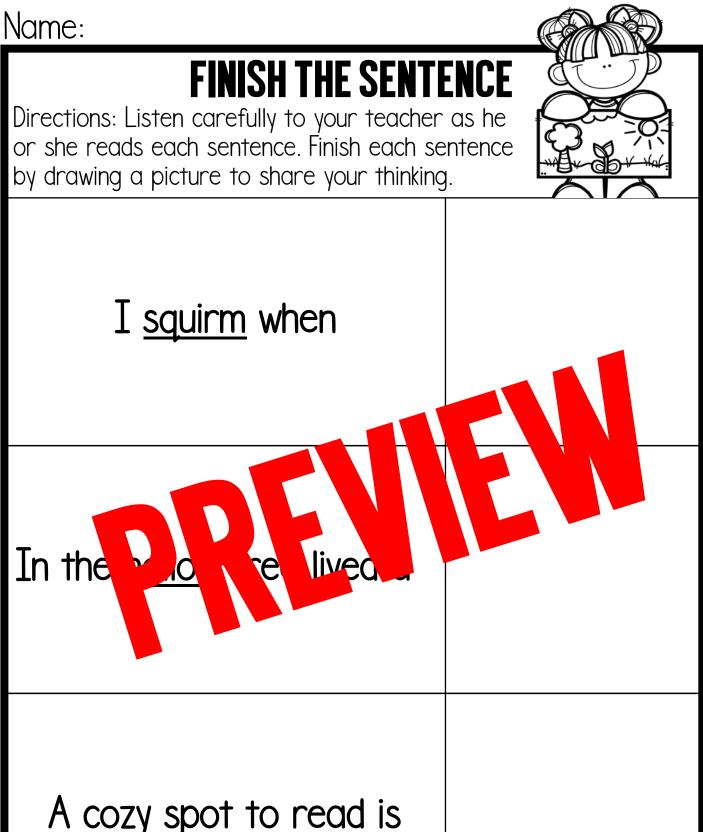
Name:

### I CAN DRAW A STORY

Directions: Think of an animal that hibernates. Draw a picture of the animal hibernating in a safe and cozy place. Be ready to share your story! If you can, label your picture with some of this week's words.



squirm hollow cozy



A cozy spot to read is

Name: **WEEKLY WORD SKETCH** Directions: Draw a picture to show what each word means to you. (%) squirm Name: Y WOR \_XEICH Directions: to show what each word means to you. aw a hollow squirm COZY

# PICTURE CARDS FOR WORD CHAT WORD PLAY ACTIVITY

Optional/Supplemental Activity: The following picture cards can be used with the class as an optional, additional, or supplemental word play activity throughout the week. Cut out the cards, and display them on an anchor chart or in your pocket chart. These picture cards can be used with your word cards. Students will engage in a discussion as a whole class, partners, or in small groups about which of this week's words can be used to label each picture. An answer sheet is intentionally not included because we want students to form their own conclusions, opinions, and justifications about which picture best matches the meaning of each word. In many cases, there is no "right" or "wrong" answer, as long as the students can justify their reasoning through their oral explanations. You can also have students assign the synonym and antonym cards to each picture as an extension activity and/or vocabulary challenge. If you waid like vou can laminate the picture cards, and have students circle which we each picture with dry erase markers. This would also makens y or center!





#### Name:

### LABEL THE PHOTOGRAPH

Directions: Cut out the words at the bottom of the page. Glue each word beside the picture that you think best shows the meaning of the word. Be ready to share why you made each choice!

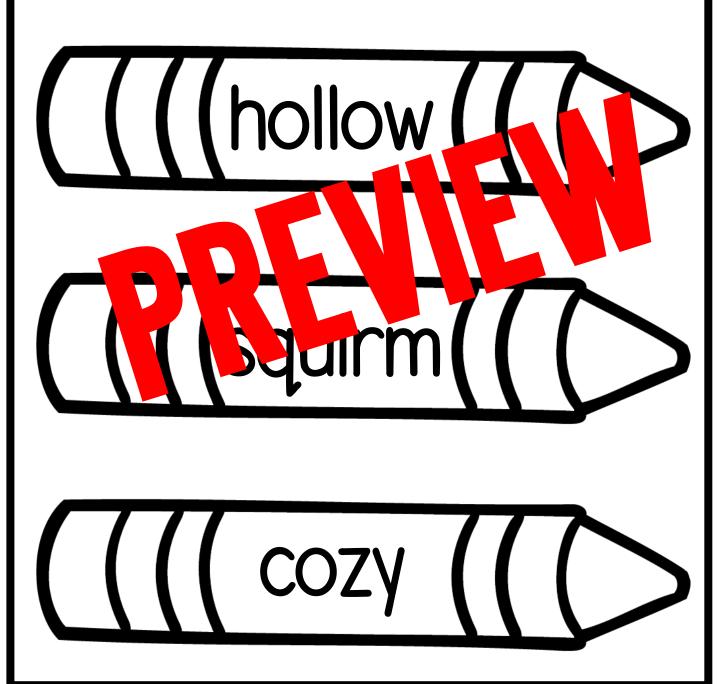


hollow squirm cozy

Name:

### **WORD CRAYONS**

Directions: Think about what color best describes each word. For example, yellow is a great color for the word "happy" because yellow is cheerful. Red is a good color for the word "love" because when we love people, our red hearts are full! Color each of this week's focus words a color that you think describes the word.



### **VOCABULARY CARDS WEEKS 1 & 2**

squirm hollow to twist and turn your empty on the inside body connortable warm al sick or unhealthy

miserable extremely unhappy

**fizzy**full of bubbles

Why was this resource created?

As primary teachers, we know the importance of vocabulary instruction for our beginning readers. It is no surprise that research tells us there is a direct correlation between vocabulary instruction and our students' reading comprehension skills (Anderson and Nagy, 1991). In fact, the following research studies show us how vital vocabulary instruction is within our classrooms:

- In a study by Cunningham and Stanovich (1997), the vocabulary skills of first-grade students predicted their reading achievement in their junior year of high school.
- A study by Hart & Risley in 1995 found that by the age of 3, many low ŠES children already displayed a large gap in vocabulary compared to peers of higher SES.
- Three years later, we learned that this gap in vocabulary was directly related to reading and comprehension success (Snow, 1998).

We want students to acquire new vocabulary words through the authentic books they read, the books we read to them, and through the rich and robust conversations they have with others. Using picture books that contain rich vocabulary was not a struggle for me as a primary teacher, but finding additional vocabulary activities, resources, and hands-on engagement for vocabulary was often difficult. The leveled books our students read at the small-group table are often not packed with the amount of Tier 2 vocabulary words we hope to expose students to on a weekly basis. As a primary teacher myself, I craved an effective, simple weekly routine that would immerse my students in important Tier 2 vocabulary instruction that they could relate to their everyday lives.

Even more important than a desire for a weekly routine is the need for vocabulary instruction to be embedded in context and not in isolation. Teaching vocabulary words in isolation is not best practice, is not highly supported in educational research, and is not brain-based instruction. When students learn words in isolation, they often fail to remember those words and definitions, and the words are meaningless to their lives. Within this resource, the vocabulary words are always first introduced within the context of a short, kid-friendly passage. Students will make word predictions with this passage and then put the week's new words into the text based on meaning and comprehension. In addition, each week also has an additional book that focuses on the week's words. This booklet is read aloud by the teacher, and the story is different from the initial introduction passage. As a result, the students are reading, seeing, hearing, and discussing the vocabulary words in multiple ways through various scenarios, situations, and examples. We also know that students will retain their understanding of new words when they can use the words and apply them to their real lives. We are proud to share that each week's materials and lessons provide students with ample opportunities to do just that!

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What kind of words does this vocabulary resource focus on? Vocabulary words, for instructional purposes, can be divided up into three categories: Tier I words, Tier 2 words, and Tier 3 words.

<u>Tier I words</u> consist of commonly-known words. These are words that our students likely learn from their everyday experiences. Your students will most likely already know Tier I words. Examples of Tier I words consist of words such as *house*, *dog*, *lamp*, *phone*, and *apple*.

<u>Tier 2 words</u> are high-frequency words that often have multiple meanings and are seen across several content areas. These general academic words are often seen in descriptive language. Tier 2 words are the words students have the most difficulty with. They are also the words that are widely misinterpreted when reading text. Examples of Tier 2 words consist of words such as *predict*, *performed*, *timid*, and *content*.

<u>Tier 3 words</u> are low-frequency words and are very domain-specific. They are generally specific to a particular concept. These are words that students will most likely not use outside of their academic courses or careers and include words such as *photosynthesis*, *peninsula*, *economics*.

This resource focuses strictly on Tier 2 words. Building one's understanding of Tier 2 words is the fastest way to close vocabulary gaps in struggling students, because they are the words most widely used and misunderstood.

### If I use this resource, is this the only vocabulary instruction and words my students will need to learn?

It is important to understand that going through the activities and lessons in this vocabulary resource will NOT result in your students knowing all of the vocabulary words they will need to know this school year. This resource is designed to be an important part of your overall vocabulary instruction and help you feel assured that you are explicitly teaching vocabulary and integrating it into your instruction on a daily and weekly basis. Just like you always have, you will continue to teach your students many more words every week through the books you read to them, the content you teach, the small-group lessons you instruct, and the conversations you have. This resource provides you with the tools you need to teach vocabulary, strategies, a routine, word play activities that can be used over and over again, and engaging discussions that will lead to additional vocabulary word exposure and rich conversations.

#### Why are there only three weekly focus words? Is that enough?

Since our goal as teachers should be to expose our students to as many meaningful vocabulary words as we can, understanding synonyms and antonyms is an important part of vocabulary instruction. The resource is set up to contain three "focus words" each week, but those are not the only words they will learn and be exposed to! Throughout the week, you will share synonyms and antonyms for each of the week's focus words with your students. You should use the synonyms interchangeably, and the students will engage with these synonyms and antonyms throughout the week within their word play and application activities. Therefore, your students will be constantly making connections and associations between words for each of the week's focus words. For instance, if a student hears and is exposed to two synonyms and two antonyms for each focus word, we've now exposed the student to fifteen words for the week, rather than just three focus words!

### I don't know if I can fit "one more thing" into my daily schedule. How long will the daily lessons take? Is the routine flexible?

It can often feel like we are trying to "fit it all in" throughout our school day. The weekly routine and program is set up to be able to be as flexible or as rigid as you would like. There are 5 lessons per week, but you can certainly complete all of them each week, or you may pick and choose two or three that you like best. The flexibility is one of the greatest beauties of this resource! I've also set it up in a simple way that allows you to swap different activities in and out if you want to mix things up and do something "different" from week to week. So for example, instead of completing the writing application activity for Lesson 5 one week, you may choose to toss that and complete a different word play activity instead. Or, you may have a three day week at school, and choose to just do the first two lessons for that week. You'll still be exposing your students to new vocabulary in a meaningful, content-rich way, even if you do not complete all five lessons throughout the week. It's a win-win for both teachers and students alike!

The activities and lessons can generally be completed in about 20 minutes. However, once again, you can extend your discussions and activities or you can complete the lessons quickly in just 15 minutes a day, if you wish.

#### Is this a "no-prep" or "just-print" vocabulary resource?

Even though everything has been created for you in an effort to make this intentional vocabulary time as easy and stress-free as possible, this is not a "justprint" or "no-prep" resource. Why? As a teacher and a curriculum author, I do not believe that such an important concept as vocabulary can possibly be given the credit it deserves in a "just-print" format. Each week, I suggest reading through the short introduction passage, read-aloud booklet, and teacher suggested discussion questions so that you can be prepared to discuss the concepts, scenarios, and comprehension material with your students. I also suggest previewing the weekly focus words and taking a look at the synonyms, antonyms, definitions, and example sentences. You may even want to come up with additional examples of your own to meet the individual background needs of your students. In addition to previewing the material, there will be vocabulary cards and some supplemental material to cut out and laminate (if you wish). Personally, I like to present the introduction stories for Lesson I in a pocket chart with pocket chart sentence strips. If this is something you wish to do it will require just a few minutes of prep time at the beginning of the week. The weekly anchor chart that you create with your students can be completed with them during Lesson I and will not take more than a few minutes.

### I have other word lists my district requires me to teach. Can you add these words, or can I use the lessons with my own word lists?

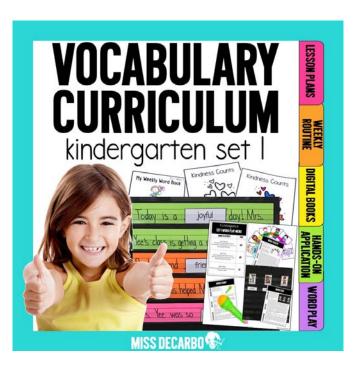
The specific design of this resource was created for grades K-2. In each grade level, the word lists are entirely different so that students can complete the curriculum from kindergarten to second grade and not have any repeated words from week to week. I have chosen Tier 2 words that are important for your students to know and words they will commonly use, hear, see, and read throughout their entire lives. Due to the time it took to coordinate these weekly word lists across three grade levels, I will not be adding custom word lists or editable features to the resource at this time. However, if your district requires additional vocabulary words, the basic strategies, concepts, and activities can be used with your other words. For example, with a little creativity, you could certainly use most of the word play menu activities with other word lists from your classroom!

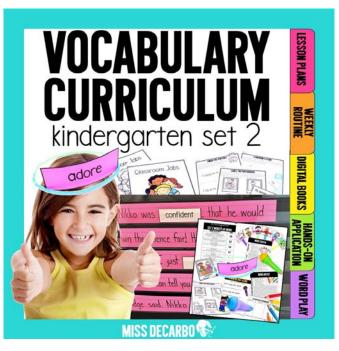
## RESEARCH CITATIONS

The following is a list of articles, books, and journals that I used in my own research about vocabulary over the past several years. I'm including these citations for your convenience if you would like to read more about vocabulary instruction and what was read while writing this curriculum.

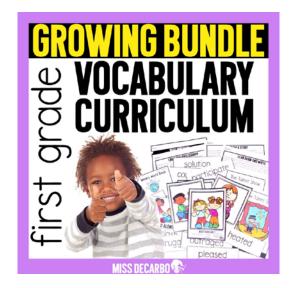
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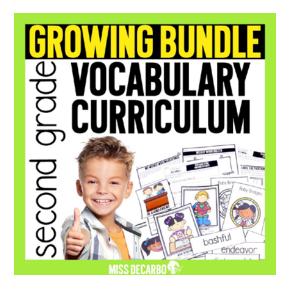
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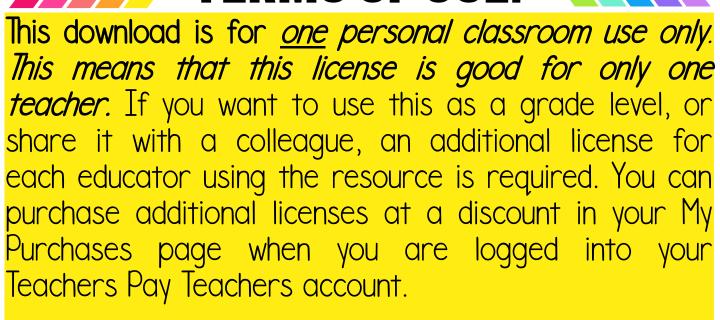
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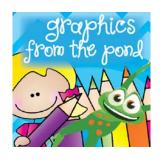
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