

# Reading is FUNdamental

MVCSD Virtual Learning  
Dr. Kenneth Hamilton,  
Superintendent

December 10, 2020

# Agenda

Co-Presenters: Dr. Monica George-Fields and Linda Kasarjian

★ Superintendent Hamilton Address

★ Fun with Words



★ Extending Learning Beyond Assignments



★ Reading Together



★ Becoming An Author - The Family Way



★ The Art of Reading Aloud



# Superintendent Hamilton



# Fun with Words

Expanding sight words and  
vocabulary is very important for  
reading

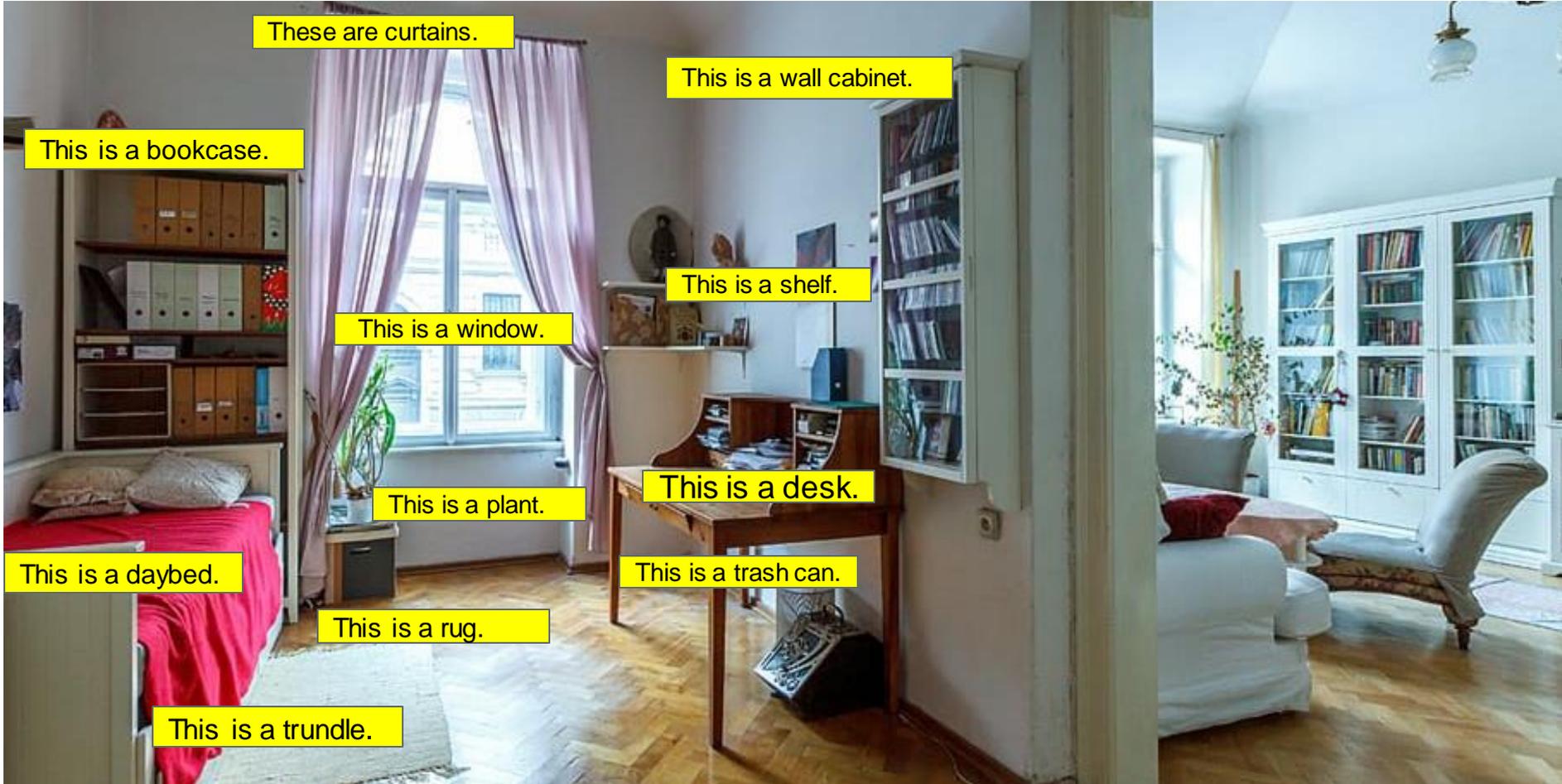
## Sight Words

- Eye Spy
- Labeling A Room
- Good Old Fashion Lists

## Vocabulary Building

1. Words in A Jar
  2. Family Word of The Day
  3. Story in a Bag
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These are curtains.

This is a bookcase.

This is a wall cabinet.

This is a window.

This is a shelf.

This is a plant.

This is a desk.

This is a daybed.

This is a trash can.

This is a rug.

This is a trundle.

# Sight Words are Crucial

1. Find a list of sight words from the internet (Fry or Dolch). The lists may include 9-Hundred Words
2. Ask your child's teacher what list to begin to use. Sometimes older students benefit from reviewing the first and second hundred words lists.
3. Research on learning new words tell us that people need to see and use new words, depending on the structure of the word, 18-30 times. This can be done by:
  - a. Reading the list daily
  - b. Practicing using the word in context
  - c. Practicing the structure of the word (writing and spelling it)



## Fry Words – The Second Hundred

### List 1

over  
new  
sound  
take  
only  
little  
work  
know  
place  
years  
live  
me  
back  
give  
most  
very  
after  
things  
our  
just  
name  
good  
sentence  
man  
think

### List 2

say  
great  
where  
help  
through  
much  
before  
line  
right  
too  
means  
old  
any  
same  
tell  
boy  
follow  
came  
want  
show  
also  
around  
form  
three  
small

### List 3

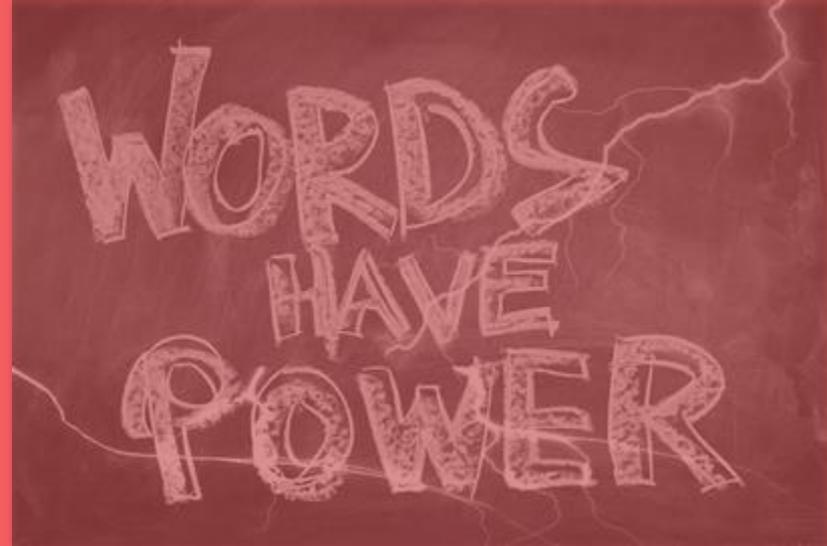
set  
put  
end  
does  
another  
well  
large  
must  
big  
even  
such  
because  
turn  
here  
why  
ask  
went  
men  
read  
need  
land  
different  
home  
us  
move

### List 4

try  
kind  
hand  
picture  
again  
change  
off  
play  
spell  
air  
away  
animal  
house  
point  
page  
letter  
mother  
answer  
found  
study  
still  
learn  
should  
America  
world

# Vocabulary Building

- Words in A Jar
- Family Word of The Day
- Story by Scavenger



# Words In A Jar

Why use the same old words again and again? Just for the fun of it, search for more interesting, fancier words and try them out!

- How many different ways can you say “good”?
- What’s another word for “fast”?
- How else could you say “polite”?

As a family, select words that each of you can add to your collective vocabulary. Put them into a jar. Choose a word and put it into action, try it out. Keep it up and watch your vocabulary grow!

You’ll begin to notice the words in books, movies, TV shows, videos, and in your OWN conversations!

Research shows that **focused efforts** on expanding vocabulary improve reading and listening comprehension!



# Family Word of The Day

Try helping your entire family expand their vocabulary by giving each member a word of the day.

- Each family member wears their word (taped on, hung around neck, pinned) and uses their word as often as possible, in conversation
- At certain times of day play a game for points, using your word
- Write a family story each week with the words, with each member participating. Put together in a book for fun later on or post on social media to spread the fun.

My word is **fatigue**

My word is **patience**

My word is **family**

My word is **sharing**

My word is **cooperate**

My word is **focus**

Our **family** works hard at **sharing**. Together, we try to **focus** on our goals. It's important to **cooperate** and exercise **patience**, especially when one of us experiences **fatigue**. ♥

# Story in A Bag

1. Collect four items that do not have much in common and place them in a bag.
2. Set 2-minutes on the clock alarm
3. Take the items out of the bag and begin to tell a story that includes the four items
4. To make the task a little harder or targeted, require the storyteller to add details such as the physical description of an item, the name of a person who may be in the story, or a specific location that the story takes place.





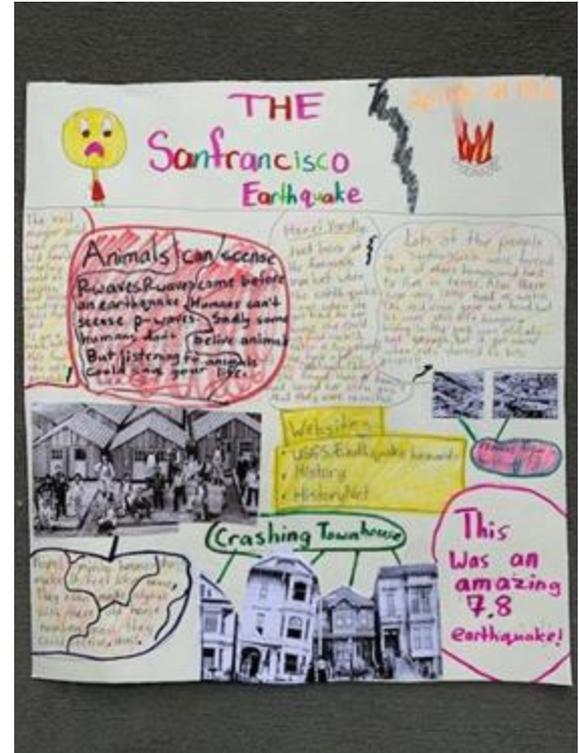
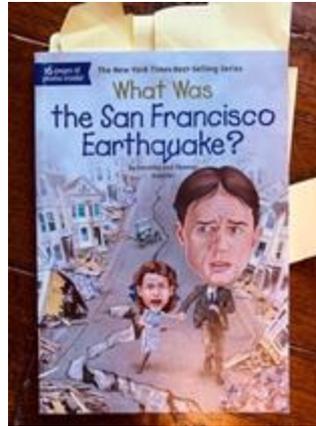
# Extending Learning Beyond Assignments

The best learning comes from the heart and our own curiosity

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# Personalizing the work for learning sake

- Have your child select a book/text they love and have read on their own or with you
- This could be a magazine, picture book, chapter book, graphic novel (either on their level or not)
- Brainstorm ways they could share their love or interest in that book with others
- Ideas for sharing could involve technology with a recorded interview, or a powerpoint or it could be a poster (to the right), comic strip, a painting, a drawing, a poem, a brochure...
- Share with family members or friends, display at home, perhaps start a collection





# Reading Together

The Power of Post-It Notes



# When Reading Together Is More About Support

## MAIZON AT BLUE HILL

Grandma shook my shoulders and grinned. "What about this old lady, Maizon?"

I looked up at Grandma. We had been together since I was a baby. Leaving her was too hard even to think about. "You're in my heart, Grandma."

Grandma smiled, picking up her needles again and snapping them together so quickly they nearly blurred. "Maizon, Maizon, Maizon . . ." she said softly. "What *am* I going to do with you?"

"Well, you could *not* send me to Blue Hill. That would be a start."

"And then what? You're too smart for the schools here in Brooklyn."

"What if I just skipped a grade, Grandma? Then I'd be okay."

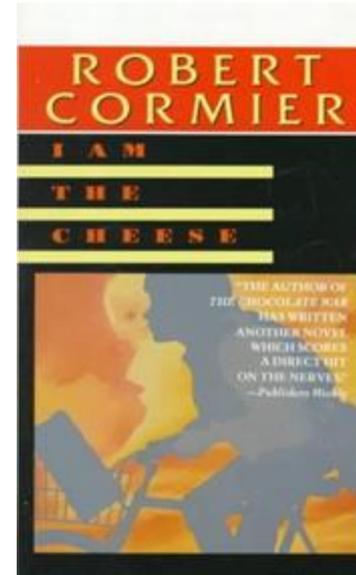
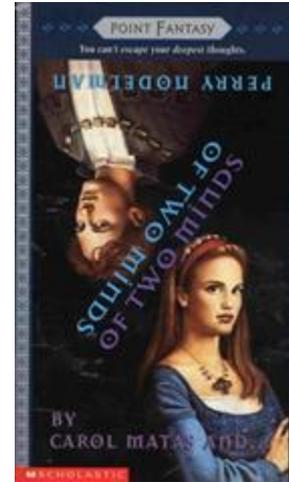
Grandma frowned. "I want you to learn with children your own age, Maizon. I don't want you to grow up before you need to."

"I won't grow up before I need to, Grandma. Promise! I'll just go to class and do my work. Then I'll come home and be with Margaret and Ms. Dell and Hattie and Li'l Jay. That's all."

This struggle happens when people want to move on, but they do not want to leave others alone.



I remember when this happened to me and I just cried until the lady said I couldn't be skipped.





# Becoming An Author

The Family Way

# Sharing Stories



Researching family and aligning it with historical moments in time can help the student in two ways:

1. Students make connections to historical facts that help them understand different time periods.
2. Students create narrative stories that they construct from family members' real-life experiences.

This activity is also helps families connect during this time of isolation and can help students develop closer relationships with elders in their families.

Creating stories from current family or community members

Everyone has stories, young and old.

1. Ask members of your family to share memories from their childhood.
2. Write them down, snap a photo, and create a book.
3. Create a book by hand or by Powerpoint and share.
4. Invite those close to you to add to the book.





# The Art of Reading Aloud

Sharing Your Voice

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# Allow Reading to Become a Ritual

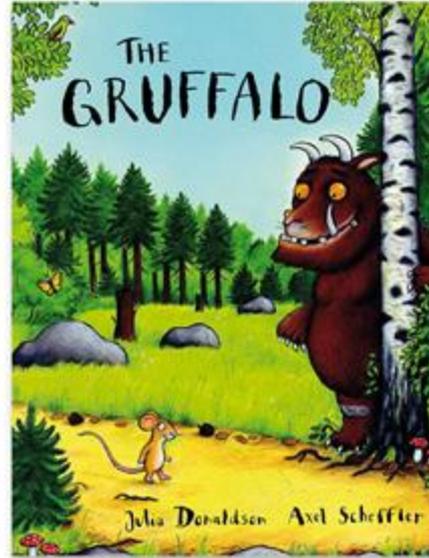
Carving out a special time to read with your child has many benefits.

That time becomes untouchable, cherished. It is predictable. It becomes a ritual.

Allow your child to select the books to be read. Read aloud the same book over and over, night after night, if your child wishes. Introduce new books every so often.

The outcome is magical and something time will not fade.

Read alouds can lead to children memorizing the text



Read alouds lead to children's understanding of text structure.



# Superintendent Q&A