

THE GLOBETROTTER TIMES

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From Ms. Palesty's Desk...

We hope all teachers, students and families had the opportunity to rest, relax and recharge over the mid-winter break.

Women's History Month is observed every March in the United States. The following are different websites available for you and your children to participate in. This will allow you both to gain a greater understanding of the large impact women have had historically!

www.infoplease.com/womens-history-month/

www.nea.org

www.scholastic.com

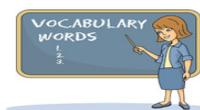
Special Events in March

- **March 7th - ENL Parents Meeting**
- **March 9th - Parent-Teacher Conference (half day)**
- **March 4, 11, 18, 25 - ENL Saturday Program**
- **March 28, 29 and 30 - 3rd, 4th and 5th Grade ELA State Exam**

BEST PRACTICE OF THE MONTH

Choosing Vocabulary Words to Teach

Vocabulary consists of the words we understand when we hear or read them (receptive vocabulary) and words we speak or write (expressive vocabulary). Knowing a variety of words is important for language development and reading comprehension.



We consider three types of vocabulary words—three tiers of vocabulary.
Tier 1—Basic Vocabulary
Tier 2—High Frequency/Multiple Meaning
Tier 3—Subject Related.

Tier One Words: These words consist of the most basic words. They rarely require direct instruction and typically do not have multiple meanings. Sight words, nouns, verbs, adjectives, and early reading words occur at this level. Examples of tier one words are: book, girl, sad, run, dog, and orange.



Tier Two Words: These words appear often in complex texts and are key to understanding directions, relationships, and to making inferences. Most vocabulary instruction should be focused on Tier Two words. *So, how do I identify Tier Two words?* You should choose words students will be able to connect to another word, choose words that will help students understand the text, choose the words that drive the story and are seen repeatedly (sometimes across the content). One of the tools you may consider to use to identify which academic words to teach is the *Coxhead* list of most frequently used Tier II vocabulary.



Tier Three Words: These words consist of low-frequency words that occur in specific domains (e.g. subjects in school, occupations, geographic regions, technology, weather, etc.). We usually learn these words when a specific need arises, such as learning amino acid during a chemistry lesson.



Websites of the Month

- * www.funbrain.com
- * <http://en.childrenslibrary.org>
- * <http://www.literacycenter.net/>
- * <http://www.thestorystarter.com>

Did you know.....?

GREECE



- Greek has been spoken for more than 3,000 years, making it one of the oldest languages in Europe.
- Greece's official name is the Hellenic Republic. It is also known as Ellas or Ellada.
- An old Greek legend says that when God created the world, he sifted all the soil onto the earth through a strainer. After every country had good soil, he tossed the stones left in the strainer over his shoulder and created Greece
- Greece has more archaeological museums than any other country in the world
- Greek Independence Day is celebrated on March 25.
- The original, historical version of Santa Claus was a Greek bishop who lived in Myra in the fourth century
- Greeks celebrate "Name Days" more than birthdays
- Greeks do not wave with an open hand. In fact, it is considered an insult to show the palm of the hand with the fingers extended. Greeks wave with the palm closed.

PARENT CORNER



NYSITELL and NYSESLAT

These are two different *Assessments for English Language Learners*. How are they different?

New York State Identification Test for English Language Learners (NYSITELL):

The purpose of the NYSITELL is to assess the English language level of new students whose home or primary language is other than English. Your child's score on the NYSITELL (Entering, Emerging, Transitioning, Expanding, or Commanding) will determine if he or she is entitled to receive English Language Learner (ELL) services and will determine the level of English language support. The results will also help teachers plan the best program for your child based on his or her strengths and needs in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in English.



New York State English as a Second Language Achievement Test (NYSESLAT):

The NYSESLAT is given to all students who are identified as English Language Learners/Multilingual Learners (ELLs/MLLs) by the New York State Identification Test for English Language Learners (NYSITELL). The purpose of the NYSESLAT is to annually assess the English language proficiency level of ELLs/MLLs enrolled in Grades K-12 in New York State schools. The test gives the state, schools, parents, and teachers important information about the English language development of ELLs/MLLs.