

Dear Parents,

Building your child's vocabulary is one way to help your child do well in school. Young readers use knowledge about words to help them make sense of what they're reading. The more words they know, the more they are able to comprehend what they are reading. Talking to and reading with your child are two great ways to help them hear and read words. Sharing conversations and questions about interesting words from a book is an easy and non-threatening way to get new words into daily talk. Giving children a rich language environment is one of the best ways to build a foundation for reading success.

Sincerely,  
Mrs. Lomaga  
AIS Reading

## Ways to Increase Your Child's Vocabulary

- Talk about the things you see in your neighborhood, on trips around town, or on television.
- When reading, pause to ask questions. Ex. "Why do you think he did that?"
- Use interesting and new words with your child. Ex. "This cookie is scrumptious! It is really good."
- Tell children stories from your own life or about the day they were born. This helps develop their personal and cultural identity.

## Helpful Tips to Keep in Mind When Introducing New Words to Your Young Readers

- Provide a simple, kid-friendly definition for the new word: **Enormous** means that something is really, really big.
- Provide a simple, and kid-friendly example that makes sense within their daily life: Remember that really big watermelon we got at the grocery store? That was an **enormous** watermelon!
- Encourage your child to develop their own example: What **enormous** thing can you think of?
- Keep your new words active within your house: Over the next few days and weeks, take advantage of opportunities to use each new vocabulary word in conversation.

Happy Reading!

