

## Building Academic Vocabulary

Bayfield School District teachers have adopted a system wide approach for teaching academic vocabulary called the six-step process to building academic vocabulary. This method, described in Building Academic Vocabulary (2005) by Robert Marzano and Debra Pickering, is predicated on students learning a common core of critical academic terms across grade levels and content areas. Because students' knowledge is encapsulated in the terms they know, the more academic vocabulary they understand, the easier it is for them to learn and understand *new* content that builds as they move up the ladder.

Between 20-40 academic terms were pre-identified by Bayfield School District teachers for each content area and grade level based upon Colorado content standards. These terms are NOT the only terms that will be taught during a school year (teachers will teach MANY more), but because of their critical importance to building academic knowledge, they are the only ones that will be taught using the six-step process.

Students have folders or notebooks at school in which they keep the vocabulary templates they use as they proceed through the six-step process. Teachers introduce the term or phrase in steps 1 – 3 by asking students to generate their own explanation, description, and/or example, and then ask students to represent the term graphically. Terms are sharpened in steps 4-6 by students comparing their understanding to classmates' and teachers using activities and games to engage students in different modalities of learning to keep terms active in working memory, and as they are deepened, committed to permanent memory.

Ask your student(s) about their vocabulary templates and notebooks and familiarize yourselves with the words your children are learning on each of the school's web sites. Teachers and students will be glad you did!

### Grade 6 Science

atom  
balanced force  
chemical change  
chemical reaction  
circuit  
color of light  
conservation of energy  
density  
energy source  
heat convection  
inertia  
infrared radiation  
insulator  
kinetic energy  
mass  
matter  
mixture  
molecule  
Newton's Laws of Motion  
oxygen  
pulley  
radiation  
speed  
unbalanced force  
visible light  
wavelength  
physical characteristics  
volume  
weight

### Grade 6 Western Hemisphere

natural resource  
Aztec

citizenship  
executive power  
export  
foreign trade  
free trade  
hemisphere  
human environment interaction  
import  
Inca  
Inuit  
isthmus  
judicial branch  
latitude  
legislative branch  
location  
longitude  
Maya  
migration  
movement  
natural resource  
peninsula  
physical map  
place  
political map  
preamble  
quota  
region  
strait  
tariff  
transportation barrier  
transportation corridor  
tribal identity

### **Grade 6 Vocabulary List-Literature**

character traits  
turning point/climax  
dialogue  
exposition  
hyperbole  
fact v. opinion  
figurative language  
flashback  
metaphor  
personification  
summarize  
conflict/resolution  
simile  
stereotype  
onomatopoeia  
viewpoint  
inference  
moral/theme  
imagery  
perspective  
plagiarism  
bibliography  
chronology  
genre

analyze  
valuate

### **Grade 6 Math**

area model (covering)  
area of irregular shapes (shapes)  
array (shapes)  
benchmarks (bits)  
common factor (PT)  
common multiple (PT)  
composite number (PT)  
corresponding angles (shapes)  
data set (data)  
experimental probability (how likely)  
exponential notation (PT)  
frequency (data)  
frequency distribution (data)  
intersecting lines (shapes)  
irregular polygon (shapes)  
linear equation  
lines (shapes)  
odds (how likely)  
outliers (data)  
perimeter formula (covering)  
polygons (shapes)  
prime factorization PT)  
protractor (shapes)  
range (Data)  
ratio (how likely)  
square number (PT)  
square units (covering)  
tessellation (covering)  
variables  
vertex (shapes)

### **Grade 6 Physical Education**

aerobic  
cardiorespiratory endurance  
eye – hand coordination  
feedback  
fitness goal  
frequency of training  
game plan  
exclusionary behavior

### **Grade 6 Social Studies**

natural resource  
Aztec  
citizenship  
executive power  
export  
foreign trade  
free trade  
hemisphere  
human environment interaction  
import  
Inca  
Inuit

isthmus  
judicial branch  
latitude  
legislative branch  
location  
longitude  
Maya  
migration  
movement  
natural resource  
peninsula  
physical map  
place  
political map  
preamble  
quota  
region  
strait  
tariff  
transportation barrier  
transportation corridor  
tribal identity

### **Grade 6 Art**

art elements  
line  
texture  
color: hue, value, intensity  
form  
space: one point perspective  
shape: organic, geometric  
abstract  
realism  
tessellation

### **Grade 6 Language Arts**

character traits  
turning point  
dialogue  
exposition  
hyperbole  
fact vs. opinion  
figurative language  
flashback  
metaphor  
personification  
summarize  
conflict/resolution  
simile  
stereotype  
onomatopoeia  
viewpoint  
inference  
moral/theme  
imagery  
perspective  
plagiarism  
mechanics

parts of speech  
six traits  
step up  
bibliography  
chronology  
genre  
analyze  
evaluate

### **Grade 7 Mathematics,**

median  
mean  
mode  
rate  
unit rate  
circle formula  
circumference formula  
coordinate system  
similarity vs. congruence  
absolute value  
ordered pair  
pattern recognition  
range of estimations  
scale transformation  
rate of change  
surface area  
volume  
slope  
integer  
equal ratios  
proportion  
simplification  
algebraic expression

### **Grade 7 Art**

contour line  
positive/negative space  
value: reflective light, cast shadow  
relief printmaking  
gauger  
veiner  
brayer  
caricature

### **Grade 7 World History**

Pre-History  
Hieroglyphics  
Pharaoh,  
Sarcophagus  
Silk Road  
Hinduism  
Buddhism  
Caste System  
Daoism  
Civil Service  
Polis  
Direct Democracy  
Persian Wars

Greek Philosophers  
Representative Democracy  
Punic Wars  
Christianity  
Islam  
Clans  
Shogun  
Hari Kari  
Pagoda  
Papacy  
Feudalism  
Crusades  
Black Death  
Renaissance  
Reformation  
Patron  
Martin Luther  
Protestant  
Galileo

### **Grade 7 Science**

cell  
digestive system  
endocrine system  
reproductive system  
nervous system  
respiratory system  
skeletal system  
muscular system  
circulatory system  
immune system  
integumentary system  
ecosystem  
cellular respiration  
photosynthesis  
homeostasis  
tissue  
organ  
organ system  
organism  
vertebrate  
invertebrate  
carrying capacity  
species  
gene  
biome

### **Grade 7 Physical Education**

anaerobic  
emotional health  
mental health  
psychological benefit  
relaxation techniques  
self-image  
visualization

### **Grade 7 English**

sensory details

foreshadowing  
active reading  
visual setting  
climax  
conflict  
resolution  
third person omniscient point of view  
third person limited point of view  
action dialogue  
active narration  
symbolism  
imagery  
accordion paragraph  
idea/content  
voice  
sentence fluency  
organization  
conventions  
complex sentence  
compound sentence  
transition  
analysis  
figurative language  
thesis statement  
expository essay

### **Grade 8 English**

bibliography format  
parts of speech  
dialogue punctuation  
fact vs. opinion  
prose  
flashback  
homophone  
synonym  
thesis statement  
holocaust  
in-text citation  
extended metaphor  
oral tradition  
paraphrase  
second person point of view  
plagiarism  
plot outline  
theme  
onomatopoeia  
archetype  
irony  
alliteration  
assonance  
consonance  
persuasive essay  
narrative essay

### **Grade 8 Art**

ceramic  
hand building methods: pinch, coil, slab  
kiln

monochromatic  
pop art  
palette

### **Grade 8 Math,**

coordinate system  
linear equation  
ratio  
rate  
proportion  
slope  
slope intercept formula  
complementary angle  
supplementary angle  
scatter plot  
domain  
range  
rational number  
Pythagorean Theorem  
absolute value  
congruence  
transformations  
intersecting lines  
exponents

### **Grade 8 US History**

Atlantic Slave Trade  
Colonial Discontent  
Navigation Acts  
Puritanism  
Revolution  
English Bill of Rights  
American Identity  
States Rights  
Continental Congress  
Federalism  
James Madison  
Foreign Policy  
Marbury V. Madison  
Judiciary Act 1789  
North West Ordinance of 1787  
Election of 1800  
Lewis and Clark  
Industrialization  
Anti-Immigration  
Federal Indian Policy  
Populism  
French and Indian War  
Manifest Destiny  
Seneca Falls  
Compromise of 1850  
Transcendentalism  
Abolitionism  
Plantation system  
Confederacy  
The Union  
Emancipation Proclamation  
13th, 14th, 15th Amendments

KKK

Compromise of 1877

Multiculturalism

### **Grade 8 Physical Education**

inclusive behavior

intramural sport

leisure activity

target heart rate

overtraining

overuse injury

resting heart rate

self-talk

### **Grade 8 Science**

H-R diagram

bias

igneous rock

sedimentary rock

metamorphic rock

nuclear reaction

meteor

asteroid

comet

fossil record

eclipse

electromagnetic radiation

mineral

sun layers

earth layers

light year

crustal plate movement

gravitational force

celestial body

solar system

galaxy

universe

lithosphere

asthenosphere

orbit

### **Grade 6-8 Technology**

accuracy

analyze information

authenticity

citation format

citation page

cite

computer hacking

copyright

copyright violation

data

download

file management

function

graphic

host name

http

Internet Service Provider

invasion of privacy

key word

layout

link

manipulate

plagiarism

prefix

presentation

protocols

router

suffix

table

tcp/ip

virus