



JOYcabulary

Title <i>Stacey's Extraordinary Words</i>	Author Stacey Abrams
Genre Narrative	Shared Reading <i>Words</i> Jill Eggleton

Synopsis: Stacey is a little girl who loves words more than anything. When her teacher selects her to compete in a spelling bee, she isn't as excited as she thought she'd be. Stacey will learn that sometimes *perseverance* is the most important word of all. *Failure is an invitation to try again.*

Vocabulary

Word	Page	Student Friendly Definition
anxious	6	feeling uneasiness, worry, or dread
petrified	7	to be really, really afraid; upset to the point of not being able to move
stupendous	9	amazing; causing astonishment or wonder
intimidated	10	scared; to cause to become afraid or timid, especially by means of threats; to discourage or inhibit with a display of power or perceived superiority
instantaneous	18	immediately; done in the same instant
perseverance	24	to keep going with an action, task, or belief even when there are challenges

Shared Reading:

Words

I like words like
Lickety-split
Whacky-doo
Slippity-slap
And hullabaloo.

I like words like
Zippity-zoom
Zippity-zap
Gurgly-glug
And flippity-flap.

I like words that
Twist and jerk
To make my tongue
Do some work.

Jill Eggleton

Reading

Page #	Accountable Talk	JOYcabulary
Before Reading	Let's look at the covers before we read to get our minds ready to listen to this story. The girl is smiling and she's dressed up. This must be a special day. I notice she is wearing a number and standing in front of a microphone. Maybe she's in some kind of contest. There are kids sitting in chairs behind her. They are also wearing numbers. They must be her competitors - the other contestants. On the back, there is a photo of the author. Since her name is Stacey, this must be a story about her.	extraordinary: far beyond the usual or ordinary; remarkable competitors: people who go against others to win or achieve a goal contestants: people who participate in a contest
During Reading P. 1 - 6	Stacey REALLY loves words! She is Word Conscious. She thinks of words as her friends, even keeping them in a special notebook. Let's reread P. 5-6. Hmm... What are we learning about Stacey?	anxious clumsy awkward
P. 7 - 12	At first, Stacey is really excited about the spelling bee. But soon she becomes intimidated by Jake. She wants to be brave and to be able to speak up against his hurtful ways. I wonder why she stays so silent? She knew as many words as Jake. What do you think?	evaporated complicated stupendous intimidated
P. 13 - 26	Ugh! After all that work, Jake beats her! Do you think Jake was sincere when he said Good job!?! But..Stacey DOES tell him she knows how to be courteous! Do you think she was brave? What do you think mom was trying to teach Stacey when she told her: <i>You only fail when you stop?</i>	pronounce courteous perseverance
After Reading	Let's read the <i>Author's Note</i> . Words have helped Stacey all through her life! Wow! The last page has all the definitions of Stacey's words! She gave us a glossary - a little dictionary.	

Extensions

- Google Stacey Abrams. Find out how she ran for the governor of Georgia and is an advocate for voting rights. She is still competing and using her words. Read the author blurb in the back of the book.
- You might want to start a class *Notebook of Extraordinary Words* as a bulletin board. Individual students might want to create their own notebooks.

Next Steps Read more *Launch* books to create a *Word Conscious* classroom: *The Word Collector* - Peter H. Reynolds and *A Walk in the Words* - Hudson Talbott.