

MAY



Tip

of the Month

JOYcabulary

## Planning: What's Your Process?

*How do you pick your books?*

*How do you know what words to teach?*

*Where can I find your vocabulary games?*

*Are you research-based? (YES!)*

*Do you have a lesson for \_\_\_\_\_?*

At JOYcabulary, we use a **7-step process** to create our lesson plans. You can use this same process to plan ANY book! Know you can always contact us if you have a book you'd like us to add to our lesson collection.

## How to Write Lesson Plans the JOYcabulary Way: Seven Easy-ish Steps

### Step #1: Book Choice

We use several lenses when we are selecting books.

### Step #2: Word Choice

We have a blog post on choosing words with various lenses. These lenses usually generate a long list of possible words. Now it is time for selecting and choosing 4-6 words for explicit instruction. (*Words that fall under the starred lenses are not included.*)

**TIP:** Don't stress over choosing the RIGHT words. Using the lenses outlined above will lead you to 'right' words. Your readers will still hear the words not chosen. If you are raising *word consciousness* children, they may even demand to know the meaning of these other words!

### Step #3: Gather Student-Friendly Definitions

Look up the student-friendly definition for each of your selected words. (*See our blog post for resources*)

### Step #4: Search for a Warm Up Poem

If you want to warm up with a poem, make sure your search says '*for kids*.' Poetry isn't just for April! Poetry has many benefits - especially fluency. See [timrasinski.com](http://timrasinski.com)

# How to Write Lesson Plans the JOYcabulary Way: Seven Easy-ish Steps

## Step #5: Book Pairing

JOYcabulary usually pairs an informational text with a narrative. (*Again - see our blog post*) In informational texts, you may lean into some Tier 3 words for that topic.

## Step #6: Create your Interactive Read Aloud Plan

Think about the three big parts of read aloud: *before reading, during reading, after reading.*

## Step #7: Extensions

According to research, students need multiple exposures to words distributed over time to truly own these new words.

## Tips for Thought

Phew! It sounds like a lot... and it is. I can promise you, planning will go faster the more you do it. Do not stress that the little sticky notes will distract your readers. Believe me - after a while, they won't even notice them.

- TIP:** If you have a grade level partner, split up the books and share the plans.
- Saving you time** is one of the missions of JOYcabulary. If you have a title you are eager to see in our collection of plans, contact us. We'd be happy to write one for you.

Welcome May! We wish you a month filled with blooming vocabulary & JOY!

Spread the Word. Spread the Joy.

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