



WHAT IS IN A NAME/WORD?

Activity Description

The teacher will pick a name. The name could be the title of the subject that students are learning, the title of a character in a book, or a student's name. The title will represent words that must be selected to describe what is going on in the reading. Using a diagram, students will fill in the worksheet about the readings using the name the teacher selected. For each letter of the selected word, the students must come up with a description of the reading. An example is below.

	J	A	M	E	S
Reading: <i>The Flying Pig</i> , Chapter 3, pp. 13–22	juicy jumping	artful	mean mounds meat	exciting	sweat swine

After the students come up with a few examples they will pair with another person and read their answers. Students must explain why they wrote down each word and how it related to the reading. After students have shared the teacher will make one giant list, again making the reporting students explain why the word was chosen and how it fit the reading.

Variations

Make the activity into a game, seeing how many creative answers students can come up with. Also, try major vocabulary words or themes of the book like *Authority*, *Privacy*, *Responsibility* and *Justice*.

Suggested Grade Level

Upper elementary to high school

Estimated Time to Complete

Half to one day

Objectives

Students will be able to

- invent creative ways to describe materials being studied;
- select the correct word or phrase to complete an analogy using synonyms, antonyms, homonyms, categories, subcategories, whole/part, functions, and verb forms;
- make inferences and draw conclusions based on vocabulary.

Materials Needed

- Create an activity worksheet like the example shown and described above.