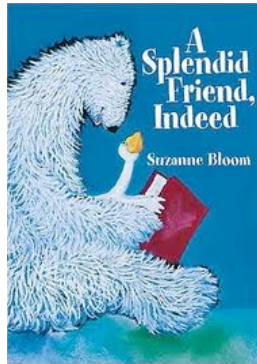


# Use “Zesty” Words

## A Splendid Friend, Indeed

Written and Illustrated by Suzanne Bloom



### Description:

Friendship. Duck desperately want to be friends with busy polar bear. Can they become splendid friends?

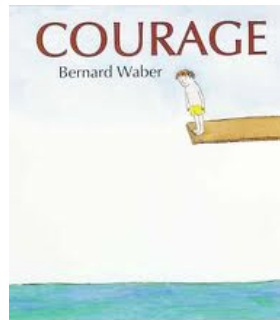
### Connection:

This is a story with few words, no more than three sentences on a page. Through its simplicity, one word is spotlighted, “splendid.” The illustrations powerfully show the meaning of the word as the bear hugs the duck. “Splendid” would be a good word to add to a word collector because there will be many opportunities to use it. “Splendid” could be a description for the weather, a song, a book, a game, a friend and more. An added benefit, the word is spelled like it sounds and contains blends plus a hidden word to highlight during word study.

# Use “Zesty” Words

## Courage

Written and Illustrated by Bernard Waber



### Description:

Courage...how would you describe it? Though word and illustration, “courage” is described in thirty-seven different ways throughout the book.

### Connections:

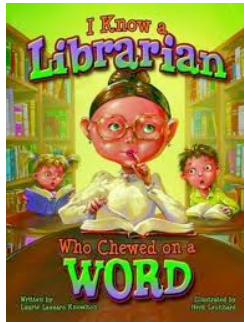
Point out that this entire book centers around one word...courage. After reading about the many examples, ask the children if they can think of a time when they demonstrated courage.

This format of using one word with multiple examples can be used to define other words such as responsibility, patience, integrity, perseverance and more. Children can draw or write about their experiences. This would make a powerful bulletin board display. Add the new word to your word collector and encourage students to use it in their writing.

# Use “Zesty” Words

## I Know a Librarian Who Chewed on a Word

Written by Laurie Lazzaro Knowlton...Illustrated by Herb Leonhard



### Description:

I Know a Librarian Who Chewed on a Word is an adaptation of the familiar tale “I Know an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly.” In this version, the librarian eats one special word. She continues to eat more and more, as the children demand, “What is that word?” until just the right word pops out...READ!

### Connections:

Tell the children, before reading the book, that this is a story about a librarian who gobbles up a word. “Try to think what word a librarian might want to eat...but keep it inside your head until the end of the story.” After the story ask the children to give a thumbs-up if they had guessed the word correctly. Of course, all thumbs will likely be raised.

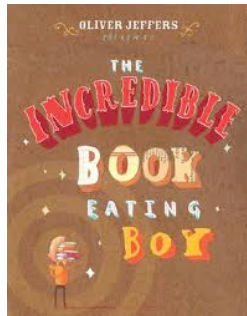
Next, challenge the students to think of words that go with “read.” Have the children look at the CAFE board to get ideas.

Word	Listen	Partner	Comprehension	Vocabulary	Letters
Accuracy	Learn	Goals	Stamina	Strategies	Sounds
Fluency	Characters	Retell	Fiction	Voracious	Predict
Non-fiction	Expression	Chunks	Pacing	Problem	Solution

Use “Zesty” Words

# The Incredible Book Eating Boy

Written and Illustrated by Oliver Jeffers



## Description:

Henry loved to eat books because he thought he would become the smartest person on earth. Finally, Henry discovers that reading books makes you smart too...it just takes a little longer.

## Connections:

Reading this story provides an opportunity to discuss qualities of voracious readers.

Sample questions:

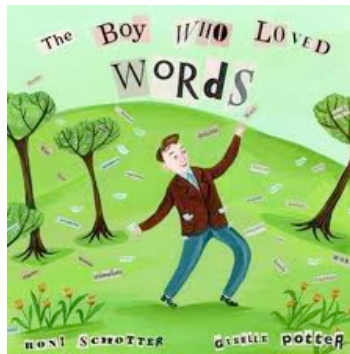
- When do voracious readers read?
- Where do voracious readers read?
- What do voracious readers read?
- Why do voracious readers read?
- Are you a voracious reader?

During the discussion, be sure to lead the children to the idea that learning new words from books will help you know more about the world.

# Use “Zesty” Words

## The Boy Who Loved Words

Written by Roni Schotter...Illustrated by Giselle Potter



### Description:

A boy named Selig loves and collects words. As he grows he gains a new name, Wordsworth, and discovers a talent for sharing words with others.

### Connections:

This book turns the limelight on expanding vocabulary. Zesty words are scattered on each page. It would be impossible to stop during the story and define each word, but children can still enjoy the sound of new and unusual words. At the end of the book is a glossary of sixty-eight zesty words with definitions. After reading the story, spotlight a few. Challenge students to make up some sentences using several of the words. Then add one or two to the class word collector.

If you have a student reading significantly above grade level, give them this book. If you have a “Wordsworth” in your class, they will enjoy this book too. And if you have a parent who feels that only chapter books will do for their child, show them this book.