

Learning together

Quality Control!

ACTIVITY #9

SEQUENCE: DEVELOPING VOCABULARY – PRIMARY

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Purpose of the activity

The goal of this activity is to help your child determine if a specific word or expression is appropriate based on the context, differentiating between spoken and written language.



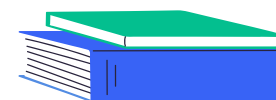
Relevance of the activity

This activity will help your child enrich their vocabulary and express their ideas in writing **at the appropriate language level.**



Supplies

- A passage in a text or book where there are colloquial words and expressions
- The list of words in the appendix



LET'S GO!

Explain the activity:



Today, we are going to learn how to determine if a specific word or expression is appropriate based on the person to whom we are speaking.

Explain why:



This strategy will help you think about the words you choose based on the context. For example, with your friends, you probably use more colloquial language like 'I messed up my bike'. In everyday life, this is fine, but not in writing. We must be more specific by using the most appropriate words.

Explain when:



Think of this strategy when you have to prepare an oral presentation or write a text. When you speak or write, you must pay particular attention to the words you use.

try it together:



Here's a few words that we know well and that we use often: *stuff, thing, chilly, bucks, bummer, etc.* All of these words are familiar which means that we use them in everyday life. These words can also be specific to the region where you live. This is why, in writing, it is better to use more specific words.

Now, let's try to make the following sentences more acceptable in writing.

- I messed up my new bike.
- I'm fed up with this chilly weather!

To do so, we need to first identify the words that must be changed in each sentence.

I messed up my new bike.

- For the verb *mess up*, I will look for a common verb that has the same meaning. We can replace it with *damage*, for example. Here is a more appropriate way to express this idea: I **damaged** my new bike.



I'm fed up with this chilly weather!

- Here, the expression **fed up** is being used to mean **to have enough of**. I can replace the colloquial word **chilly** with its synonym **frigid**. Then the final version of this sentence would be: I've had enough of this frigid weather!

As you can see, the starting sentence and the final version express the same idea. But the words used are more appropriate and richer!



Quick tips!

Have fun with the list of words in the attachment. Make sentences by finding suitable alternatives to the words on the list!



Some examples of colloquial words

chat	mess	holler	yup/nope
tough (difficult)	funky	split (We split after dinner)	crash (I crashed after the party)
chow down	tuckered out	figure out	fella/gal
ride (hitch a ride)	sick (That car is sick)	gross	fed up
job	thing	chilly	trash