5 Steps to Teaching Context Clues

Article # 15

1. Pre-select Words
   Read the text prior to reading with students. Identify words that have context clues associated with it.

2. Notify students
   As you read with your ELs, notify them of opportunities to use context clues to decipher the meaning of a word.

3. Search for clues
   Have ELs independently re-read the text to search for clues.

4. Collaborative Discussion
   Allow students to use the clues they found to infer the meaning of the vocab.

5. Metacognitive Reflection
   Ask them to describe the steps of using context clues to construct the word’s meaning.

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