

Vocabulary Strategy

Strategy: Unusual and Unknown Words
Appropriate Grade Level: K-5
Materials Needed: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Poster of the “Try 5” strategy. See below.• Paper/pencil or highlighter
Procedures/Steps: This five help strategy helps students learn new words independently: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Beep it. – When the student is reading out loud or silently and they come across a word that they do not know, they would then say BEEP in place of the word.2. Frame it. – When the student goes to figure out the word that they did not understand they then go and isolate that word from the rest of the sentence by placing their fingers around the word.3. Begin it. – The student looks at the beginning of the word.4. Split it. – Next they divide the word up into syllables and pronounce each syllable in the word.5. Find it. – If the student is unable to figure out the pronunciation of the word they would then be able to look it up in the dictionary.
Comments/Tips: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• This activity would be good to complete in a small group setting. The students would need a highlighter or some sort of way to keep track of the word(s).• Can be used as an alternative exam, the student could be orally tested on phonics skills.• A good poster to display in the classroom.• Could be used as a strategy with students when they come to unknown words during independent reading or reading in the content areas. Students should “Try 5” before you ask the teacher for help instead of ask three before me.
Source: Smith, C. (2003). Successful Techniques of Vocabulary. Eric Clearinghouse on Reading, English and Communication, TBC30013, 1-6.