

# Knowsys

Educational Services

# Vocabulary Builder



**frivolity** +  
fri vo' li tē

MEMORY BOX

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**N** **silliness** **HUMOR**

Wearied by the seriousness of life,  
Frank longed for the frivolity of youth.

frivolous



# Direct, Effective Instruction

## This Program Works!

“Knowsys provides us with a consistent vocab program throughout English classes from middle school through high school: standard, easy-to-remember definitions, a wealth and variety of activities, & research-based teaching strategies that deliver outstanding results.”

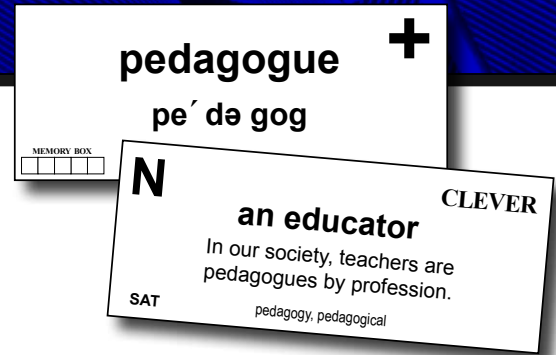
Sheila Carrell, English Chair  
Silsbee High School  
Silsbee ISD

## Heavily Research-Based

- The Knowsys method of introducing 10 words per week is highly manageable, especially because the words are organized in thematic groups
- Thematic groups like nature, money, and energy facilitate memorization
- Flashcards include the phonetic pronunciation
- Online flashcards include audio pronunciations

## The Memory Box System

- Tracks students’ progress as vocabulary words move from short-term to long-term memory
- Emphasizes the importance of retention and mastery of words, not just cramming for a weekly quiz



## Flashcards

- “Hands-on” strategy for manipulating words to encourage mastery
- Pre-printed and portable or available online or as an app — flashcards can be used anywhere
- Flashcards feature student-friendly, most frequently-tested definitions; charges (for connotation); and related words



Flashcard apps now available



# Cumulative, Varied Activities

## Mastery-Building Activities

- Short 5- to 10-minute activities:
- Matching
- Crossword Puzzles
- Media Mentions
- Short Answer Questions
- Narrative (Cloze Activity)
- Sentence Completion Quizzes
- Writing Prompts (30 minutes)
- Plus 3 or more of the following:  
Word Roots, Synonym Identification, Antonym Identification, Oddball Identification, Synonym Matching, Synonym Substitution, Scenarios, Name the Speaker, True or False, Fill-in-the-Blanks

## Mastery by Association

- Words are organized in thematic groups to facilitate mastery
- Definitional and contextual activities provide sustained meaningful interaction with the words
- Activities build vocabulary by association/disassociation and by teaching students to apply words to real-life contexts

## Meaningful Interaction

- Multiple exposures engage students in discussions about the vocabulary words
- Activities are cumulative so students continually work with words from prior groups
- Activities use words in all their various forms to enhance depth of understanding and mastery of use



**The students love it!**

*“I just wanted to let you know how much the kids love the Knowsys vocabulary cards and lessons. The activities are wonderful and take them through the different levels of thinking and learning!”*

**Laurie Wagner  
Rogers Middle School  
Pearland ISD**

# Vocabulary Builder

## Teacher Resources

- Pre- and post-tests
- Daily application activities  
Tiered for effective differentiation
- Vocabulary Flashcards (Box Set & Online)
- Alphabetized word list
- Weekly quizzes
- Cumulative Six-Week Exams
- Pre-test and Post-test

## Teacher Training

- Specialized professional development from a Knowsys expert on how to incorporate direct vocab instruction into existing ELA curriculum
- Hands-on modeling of research-based vocab best practices
- Ongoing support from the Knowsys team throughout the year

**Knowsys Vocabulary Builder Program**  
Results for  
Sample Teacher 1  
Sample Middle School 1  
Testing Period: 8/20/2007 to 5/17/2008  
Average: 72% Pre-Test 64%

**Grade: 6**

Student ID	Student Name	Average	Pre-Test
10732768	Student_Sample	54%	82%
10732769	Student_Sample	80%	80%
10732801	Student_Sample	92%	82%
10732825	Student_Sample	82%	70%
10732829	Student_Sample	62%	40%
10732844	Student_Sample	70%	90%
10732894	Student_Sample	80%	70%
10732899	Student_Sample	70%	68%
10732919	Student_Sample	70%	72%
10732935	Student_Sample	74%	76%
10732950	Student_Sample	72%	72%
10732981	Student_Sample	76%	72%
10732987	Student_Sample	72%	72%
10733007	Student_Sample	72%	72%
10733021	Student_Sample	72%	72%
10733028	Student_Sample	72%	72%
10733040	Student_Sample	72%	72%
10733078	Student_Sample	72%	72%
10733095	Student_Sample	72%	72%

**Knowsys Vocabulary Builder Program**  
Results for  
Sample ISD  
Testing Period: 8/20/2010 to 5/17/2011

Average Percentage Correct	Pre-Test		Post-Test	Percent Improvement
	Number of Students	Number of Students		
51%	608	503	80%	57%
<b>Students by Grade</b>				
Grade Level: 6				
Average Percentage Correct	55%	55%	88%	60%
Number of Students	250	250	177	57%
Grade Level: 7				
Average Percentage Correct	48%	46%	75%	57%
Number of Students	463	463	317	57%
Grade Level: 8				
Average Percentage Correct	47%	45%	74%	57%
Number of Students	485	485	349	57%

## Data and Results

- Pre-test and Post-test give you diagnostic data
- Data is presented by student, by teacher, by school, by grade, and by district

For more information  
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