

# Grab-a-Word

## Purpose:

- to enhance understanding of vocabulary
- promote fluid use and better understanding of vocabulary words and how they may be connected

**Step 1:** As you introduce vocabulary to your students, gradually create a word wall using thumbtacks (or something similar that can be removed and replaced easily).

**Step 2:** Give students a well-known word or a topic that is related to what the class is reading/studying.

**Step 3:** Have students come up to the board and grab any word that they are able to relate in some way to the word/topic you have chosen.

**Step 4:** Have students share out their connections.

## Examples:

Teacher Word: upset

Student chooses the word denounce from the word wall.

Student shares how the word upset and denounce could be related:

*You might be upset if someone denounced (or called you out) you in front of a group.*

Topic Provided by Teacher: To Kill a Mockingbird

Student chooses the word appoint from the word wall.

Student shares how the topic (TKAM) and the word (appoint) could be connected:

*Judge Taylor appointed Atticus to defend Tom Robinson.*

## Added Benefits:

- As the teacher, you are able to decide which words you want to keep in circulation as your word wall grows. This allows you to keep important words in front of your students for an extended time as you continue to introduce new vocabulary
- You could use this as an exit slip.

## Additional Resources:

Choosing appropriate vocabulary: <http://www.readingrockets.org/article/choosing-words-teach>

Word Walls: [http://www.readingrockets.org/content/pdfs/World\\_Walls\\_-\\_A\\_Support\\_for\\_Literacy\\_in\\_Secondary\\_School\\_Classrooms.pdf](http://www.readingrockets.org/content/pdfs/World_Walls_-_A_Support_for_Literacy_in_Secondary_School_Classrooms.pdf)

Examples: <https://www.pinterest.com/search/pins/?q=word%20walls&rs=typed>