

Social Studies Whole-Class Instructional Strategy:

Frayer Model (Vocabulary Strategy)

The Basics

What? A vocabulary strategy that fosters a deeper understanding of new words, promoting critical thinking and active engagement beyond simple memorization.

When? At the beginning of a new unit or topic, or as new words are introduced in texts.

Why? Provides support for learning new vocabulary and creates a record of new words that can be referenced when students are reading and writing.

How to Implement

1. Select Key Vocabulary
 - Pre-select key vocabulary words and make copies of the [graphic organizer](#).
2. Provide a [Graphic Organizer](#)
 - Provide copies of the Frayer Model graphic organizer to students and explain the process.
3. Model the Process
 - Show the Frayer graphic organizer to the class and explain each of the sections.
 - Use a common vocabulary word to demonstrate the various components of the form.
 - Model the type and quality of desired answers when giving this example.
4. Assign Student Groups
 - Divide the class into student pairs. Assign each pair one of the key concepts and have them complete the [four-square organizer](#) for this concept. Or, assign each student one word to work on alone.
5. Share Ideas
 - Ask students or student pairs to share their conclusions with the entire class. Use these presentations to review the full list of key concepts.
6. Create Study Helps
 - Make copies of each Frayer graphic organizer so every student has a copy of all key concepts to use for review, or display completed Frayer graphic organizers on a “Vocabulary Wall” for student reference.

Resources and Additional Information

- [Graphic Organizer](#)
- [Research](#) supporting the Frayer Model
- [Video Model](#) of this strategy
- Examples of activities: [Grades 9-12](#)
- Example topics in [Bayou Bridges: A Louisiana Social Studies Curriculum](#) in which the Frayer Model strategy would be helpful:
 - **Grades 3-5:** Theodore Roosevelt: Conservationist President (BB G3 U5, LSSSS 3.3, 3.3.a, 3.6.a), The Aeneid (BB G4 U4, LSSSS 4.2, 4.2.a, 4.17)
 - **Grades 6-8:** Education and Culture in French Colonial Louisiana (BB G6 U3, LSSSS 6.6, 6.6.a, 6.6.c, 6.9.g, 6.10, 6.10.a, 6.10.b, 6.10.c), The Lives of Enslaved People (BB G7 U4, LSSSS 7.6, 7.6.a, 7.11.f, 7.12)