

Social Studies Minilessons: Improving Vocabulary

Words in Review

GATHER all the important social studies vocabulary words from a chapter in your textbook.

LIST the words in alphabetical order in your notebook. Leave room for the definitions.

RECORD the definitions next to the words.

STUDY the definitions.

Word History

CHOOSE an important word from the social studies unit you are studying.

FIND its definition.

STUDY its etymology.

WRITE a paragraph that defines the word and explains its origins.

Speech Study

STUDY the transcript of a famous speech.

DEFINE the most powerful words.

WRITE an essay explaining the speech's word choice.

English Minilessons: Improving Vocabulary

In the Right Context

WRITE down any unfamiliar words in your next reading assignment.

USE context clues to define each word in your own way.

COMPARE your definition with the dictionary definition.

COPY both definitions in your notebook.

Word Exploration

PICK OUT an unfamiliar word in one of your readings.

WRITE down its definition using context clues.

FIND its dictionary definition.

EXPLORE its etymology.

WRITE an essay about the word, exploring its definition, uses, and history.

Glossary of Terms

GATHER all the unfamiliar words from a reading assignment.

LIST the words in alphabetical order in your notebook. Leave room for the definitions.

RECORD the definitions next to the words.

USE each word in a sentence on another piece of paper.