Literacy Tip #6: Robust Vocabulary Instruction, Megan Naso

**Maintaining New Vocabulary**

Research proves that students need many encounters with words in order for them to become a permanent part of their own vocabulary. Students should have the opportunity to increase their knowledge of previous learned words.

Listed below are two activities you can do to enhance learned vocabulary.

1. Classroom Dictionaries: Keep a record of learned words either in a journal or on index cards. The words can be used to stimulate class discussions or word sort games.
2. “In the Media”- After teaching academic words, have students find these words in various types of media. You can develop a reward system or make it extra credit.

Make an “In the Media” deposit slip where students can record their name, the word, and the context they found it in.

Example: **Word Context Source of Context**

There will be *consequences*. *How to Train Your Dragon* (movie)

Malkin *dominated* the game. Commentary during a Pittsburgh Penguins

hockey game.

Visit my website to find all the literacy tips presented in the weekly “Connections”.

Beck, Isabel L., Margaret G. McKeown, and Linda Kucan. "Assessing and Maintaining New Vocabulary."*Bringing Words to Life: Robust Vocabulary Instruction*. New York: Guilford, 2013. 111-115. Print.