



Objective

The student will produce more precise alternatives for overused words.



Materials

- ▶ Text
*Choose text within students' instructional-independent reading level range.
Copy and attach to the student sheet.*
- ▶ Student sheet
Provide students with multiple sheets, if necessary.
- ▶ References (e.g., dictionary or glossary)
Optional: Provide students with a Word Winner bookmark.
- ▶ Pencil



Activity

Students determine the meanings of unfamiliar or unknown words and rewrite sentences to demonstrate understanding.

1. Provide the student with a copy of the text, a student sheet, and references.
2. The student reads the text silently and thinks about the meaning.
3. Rereads the text and underlines unfamiliar words.
4. Writes the underlined words on the student sheet.
5. Writes the meaning of each word by using context clues, word parts (affixes and roots), and references.
6. Rewrites sentences containing the unfamiliar words by using the learned meanings.
7. Continues until all unfamiliar words are defined and used in rewriting original sentences.
8. Teacher evaluation

Unknown Word	Meaning	Sentence
situated	located	He lived inside an enormous house that was located next to a river.

Feline Flees
 Sam was an orange, fat feline. He lived inside an enormous house that was situated next to a river. Everyday, Sam lounged in a chair and gazed out the window. His desire was to go outside and play. But Sam's owner, Matt, never allowed him to go outside and looked out the window, he daydreamed about being able to go outside to play. Through the window, he watched the river flow, birds fly in the air, and rabbits run through the yard. He would relax in the chair and think about the day when he could go outside. He decided he would contrive a way to get outside. He was sure he would have more fun outside than sitting on a chair inside.
 The next day, Sam waited patiently by the door when he was sure Matt was getting ready to leave. Sam knew that when Matt picked up the car keys, he had to make his move! He sat by the door and waited. Matt picked up his car keys. He moved toward the door, turned the doorknob and opened the door. At that same instant, Sam bolted out of the house. Sam was finally free! He ran as fast as he could. He was finally going to be able to pursue the birds and rabbits and sit in the grass beside the river. Suddenly, something made Sam stop running. He had to suddenly stop because he would run into the garage.



Extensions and Adaptations

- ▶ Discuss the meaning of the text with a partner.
- ▶ Write a summary of the text using the learned words.

Name _____

Looking for Meaning

V. 043

Sentence						
Meaning						
Unknown Word						