A STUDY GUIDE for



FIVE ESSENTIAL STEPS TO TEACHING ACADEMIC VOCABULARY

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HEINEMANN Portsmouth, NH

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This Study Guide is intended to support your understanding of the concepts presented in *Word Wise and Content Rich: Five Essential Steps to Teaching Academic Vocabulary* by Douglas Fisher and Nancy Frey.

You can use this study guide as you finish each chapter or after you complete the whole book. Prompts and questions are intended to promote personal reflection but could also be used to foster small-group discussions between colleagues.

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Make It a Priority

Creating a Schoolwide Focus on Learning Words



- 1. Explain how Words of the Week may be incorporated as a part of a schoolwide vocabulary effort. Is this a strategy that might work at your school?
- **2.** Consider the discussion of word walls. How might you use a word wall in your classroom?
- **3.** What is wide reading and how can it affect vocabulary development?
- **4.** What role does student interest in a topic play in incidental vocabulary learning?
- 5. Discuss the components of an effective Sustained Silent Reading program as identified by Janice Pilgreen (2000). How might SSR be successfully implemented at your school and/or in your classroom? If there already is an effective SSR program, reflect on what makes it successful.
- **6.** How might you incorporate independent reading into your content area? What types of reading materials would you suggest for students?

Reference

PILGREEN, J. L. 2000. The SSR Handbook: How to Organize and Manage a Sustained Silent Reading Program. Portsmouth, NH: Boynton/Cook.