

Explicitly Teaching Vocabulary Words

Teacher Directions	<i>Classroom Example</i>
1. Introduce the Target Word	<i>bystander</i>
2. Give a Student-Friendly Explanation (avoid the dictionary)	<i>A bystander is someone who witnesses something that happens, good or bad.</i>
3. Provide a Different Context (not from the original text)	<i>Jake chose to be a bystander as he watched other kids in the hallway cheer the fight on. (Then scaffold it with a question.) What else could Jake have done?</i>
4. Engage Students Actively with the Word (repeated exposures) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Questions b. Finish the Idea c. Have You Ever...? d. Choices 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. <i>Why do you think some people let themselves be bystanders?</i> b. <i>Sarah, a bystander at the school dance, watched her best friend _____.</i> c. <i>Can you describe a time when you were a bystander and saw something bad happen? What did you do?</i> d. <i>Provide some situations that might be considered examples of bystanders. Ask students to say “bystander” as a response if it is an example. They should not respond at all if it is not an example.</i> <p><i>The bystander watched the motorist leave the scene of the accident. (“bystander”)</i></p> <p><i>The bystander stood by the 6th grader’s locker every day and teased her. (no response)</i></p> <p><i>After John was threatened, he decided to report the incident to his counselor because he was a bystander. (no response)</i></p>