

# Brief Focus Lesson

## Tune In to Interesting Words and Use New Vocabulary In Speaking and Writing for Grade 6

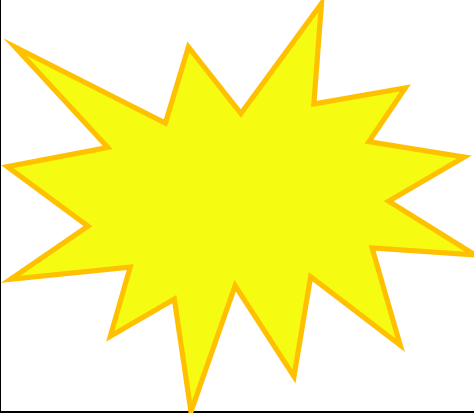
Text: *Frindle* by Andrew Clements

<b>CAFE Goal</b>	Expand Vocabulary
<b>CAFE Strategy</b>	Tune In to interesting words and use new vocabulary in speaking and writing.
<b>Observe/Relate</b> (1 – 2 min.)	Do you ever tune in to the television or radio? I do. Most mornings, I tune in to the weather report so I know if it is going to rain. I tune in to the baseball game when I'm driving home. If I take a long car trip, I tune in to a good book on tape. While I'm listening, I tune in to interesting words I hear. When I start reading a new book or magazine, I look for unusual words. Reading gives me a wonderful chance to tune in to interesting words I encounter. Whether I hear, read, or write a new word, I am expanding my vocabulary. Like me, you can expand your vocabulary whenever you tune in to an interesting word.
<b>Teach and Reinforce</b> (2 – 3 min.)	<p><b>Establish purpose</b>—Today we are learning to tune in to interesting words and use new vocabulary in our speaking and writing.</p> <p><b>Create urgency</b>—We are learning to tune in to interesting words because it helps us to expand our vocabulary and it's fun. Then we can use these exciting new words when we talk to our classmates, family, and friends and write stories and reports.</p> <p><b>Explicit teacher modeling</b>—Author Andrew Clements wrote a book called <i>Frindle</i> about a boy, Nick, who invents a word. In the story, there is a conflict—Nick wants everyone in his class to use the word “frindle,” for pen, but his language arts teacher, Mrs. Granger, has a different idea.</p> <p>In this part of the story, Nick shares his creative new word in class (<i>read pages 39-41 aloud</i>). <i>As you read, call attention to some of the interesting action words that the author uses; for example, in paragraph 3 on page 39, read the sentence “Sitting three rows away, John blurted out, ‘I have an extra one you can borrow, Nick.’”</i> Hmmm...that word “blurted” is such an unusual word, thoughts on what it means? It's so much more interesting than a word like said. What other word might the author have used?” <i>Call attention to other verbs from these pages like “launched,</i></p>

	<p><i>emphasized, gulped, disrupted, amazed, flashed, narrowed, formed, grabbed, and headed.” Write them on the board. Point out that these types of strong verbs capture readers’ attention.</i></p> <p><i>After you finish reading the excerpt, say “How are Nick and the other students in his class tuning in to interesting words?” If you read the entire book, you’ll discover that inventing a new word takes Nick to very exciting places and changes his life in ways that you cannot even imagine. His invented word, “frindle,” makes him rich and famous!</i></p>
<p><b>Practice</b> (2 – 3 min.)</p>	<p>Many authors use interesting strong verbs in their writing. Which verb from our chart do you think is the most interesting? Jot it down on your whiteboard, but don’t show it to anyone. When I signal, you’ll turn your whiteboard over so that I can see it. I’ll count your choices to see which one is the most popular word. After that, you’ll share your selected word and reason for choosing it with a partner. Now that you have voted on which strong verb you like best, working with your elbow buddy, come up with at least three other words you could use instead of the word you wrote on your whiteboards.</p>
<p><b>Encourage and Plan</b> (1 – 2 min.)</p>	<p>We just learned about how important it is to tune in to interesting words. Every time we open one of our good fit books, we have the chance to tune in to them. We can also tune in to interesting words whenever we listen to reading on a computer, mp3 player, iPad, tape recorder, or hear words on the radio or television that get our attention. Then we can use the words that we have read or heard when we talk or write. Of course, the more words we know, the more choices we will have and the better our reading and writing vocabulary become.</p> <p>Those interesting words will make our listeners and readers really pay attention We just might teach them some new words in the process. So, today when you are reading or listening to reading, tune in to those interesting words and use them!</p>
<p><b>Common Core Alignment</b></p>	<p>Most strategies are applicable to all grade levels. Tune In to Interesting Words and Use New vocabulary in Speaking and Writing aligns with Standards <b>L.6.4</b> and <b>L.6.6</b> on our <a href="#">Grade 6 CAFE Menu</a> or <a href="#">CCSS Grade Level Matrix</a>.</p>

## Tune In to a New and Interesting Word

Congratulations! You've just tuned in to an interesting word. Here's a way that you can discover more about it. You may want to use a dictionary to help you. Once you know the word, you can share everything you know about it with a classmate!

<b>Derivation (language the word is from)</b>	<b>Part of speech</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b>Synonym(s)</b>	<b>Name of Word</b> 	<b>Antonym(s)</b>
<b>Sentence</b>	<b>Quick Sketch</b>	<b>Extra: Interesting fact about the word</b>