



PRE-TEACHING

Introduce or reinforce a few key words, ideas, or representations before the lesson.



WHAT?

BUILD
PEARLAND
Proud.

Give a **brief, targeted preview** of must-know **vocabulary, concept, representations, or steps** students will need to access the learning in the lesson. Quality over quantity!

- **Prioritize 2-3 gateway items** tightly aligned to the objective.
- Use **images/video, student-friendly definitions, and a micro-practice** to prepare students.
- **Try a frayer model**, a talk read talk write, or concrete/ hands on hook.



WHEN?

- Use **before** introducing **complex** new **topics** or **when students lack the specific "entry-level" vocabulary** needed to engage with the grade-level text.



WHY?

Reduces cognitive load at the point of instruction, building a base for learning skills/concepts.

- Raises confidence/participation and **improves outcomes across domains**, including STEM and vocabulary-heavy tasks
- Explicitly **builds the background knowledge** some students lack
- Students are **more likely to participate, ask questions, and persist** through challenging material



RESOURCES

Template- Iris Center

Template -Teacher Toolkit

Editable Word Template:

****Must click Editing & open in Desktop**

SS Editable Word Template:

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INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN MOVES

Prioritize → Limit → Move on

Anticipate the barrier.

Focus only on vocabulary needed to access the lesson → avoid overloading with too many terms or definitions → keep the preview brief and purposeful

Define → Describe → Examples → Non-examples

Build a Frayer Model for key terms → include meaning, characteristics, and examples/non-examples → use it to **strengthen conceptual understanding, not just definitions.**

3x3 Preview

3 words → 3 visuals → rehearse → quick check
Preview 3 key terms or concepts using simple visuals → rehearse together (choral or quick responses) → **use a quick check** you'll revisit during the lesson

Play → Respond → Repeat

Use **fast paced routines** to build familiarity:

- Vocabulary Quiz Game Show (Lead4ward)
- Connect 4 (7 Steps)
- Turn & Talk or choral response



VIDEOS

Scaffolding Strategy- Pre-teach (1 min.)
Pre-Teaching Vocab. with Jigsaw (3 min.)
Pre-Teaching Vocabulary (3 min.)
Pre-Teaching Vocab 4 tips (45 seconds)
Pre-Teaching Vocab. Elem Sci. (3 min.)



ARTICLES

Frayer Model (Teacher Toolkit) with many examples and templates

Iris Center: Building Vocab. & Conceptual Knowledge Using the Frayer Model

★ Use the Academic Vocab from Lead4ward here or your Curriculum Documents!



AI PROMPT

I am teaching [grade level] [subject] and TEKS [# & full language]. Using research-based, up-to-date strategies, identify key vocabulary/concepts to pre-teach and provide brief, classroom-ready strategies that reduce cognitive load and support students with limited background knowledge and diverse needs.