

Article Review

**Complete APA bibliographic reference:**

Wixon, K. (1986). Vocabulary instruction and children's comprehension of basal stories. *Reading Research Quarterly*, 11, 317-329.

**Three to five descriptor terms that best describe the topic:**

Main: Vocabulary, comprehension

**Type of Article:**

Quantitative Research

**Levels:**

Upper Elementary (4-5)

**Briefly stated major purpose(s) of the study:**

To determine the effects of preteaching selected vocabulary words on comprehension.

**Research article findings**

Preteaching vocabulary produces better comprehension of basal stories regardless of the reading level of the student. Comprehension questions related directly to the vocabulary showed greater levels of recall. Concept learning may require instruction over an extended length of time rather than one session.

**Quantitative Study Information:**

Independent Variables Included:

Age (10 year olds), specific vocabulary taught, specific stories used

List Dependent Variables:

Comprehension levels, recall, being able to give examples and definitions

Treatment:

There were 120 fifth grade students in a suburban school in Detroit, Michigan selected. They were all determined to be above average readers. There were given two 45 minute sessions of supplementary reading instruction. The first session was used to teach a small group outside of class using controlled vocabulary words taken from a basal text... The next day a second session in a large group inside the classroom was held to answer specific comprehension questions centered on the pretaught vocabulary. The scores were analyzed (ANOVA) against those groups not using pretaught vocabulary.

Is reliability information reported? no

Is validity information reported? no