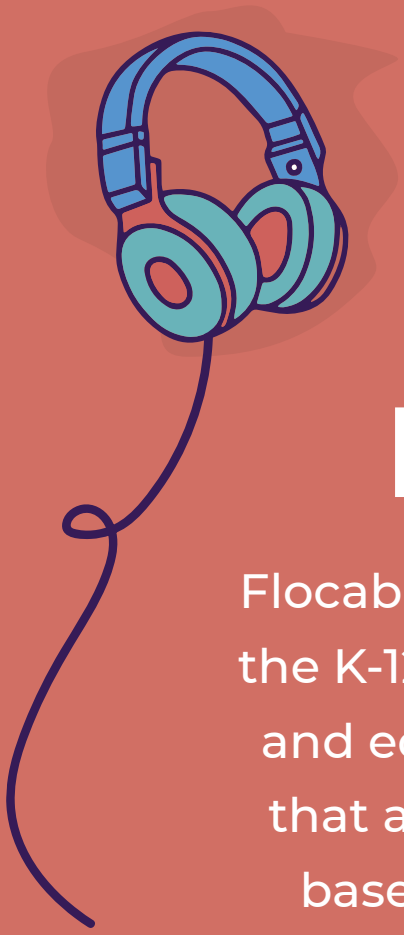
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Implementation Guidebook

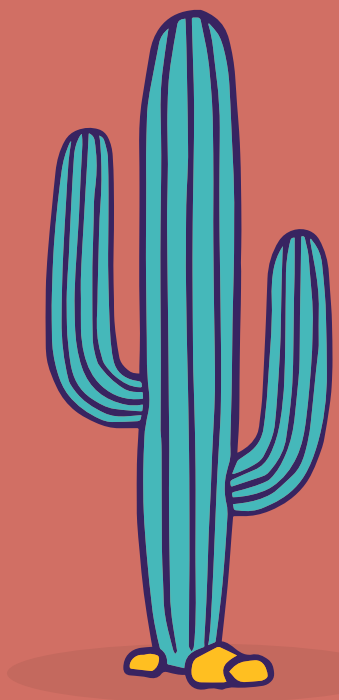




About

Flocabulary

Flocabulary helps students thrive by bringing the K-12 curriculum to life. Our rappers, artists and educators develop videos and activities that are captivating, relevant and research-based. By engaging students in rigorous academic content, our platform supports teachers in their daily instruction and helps students master standards, build vocabulary and develop 21st-century skills.



Learn more at
flocabulary.com



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Implementation Guide

Vocabulary Development

Three approaches for vocabulary instruction

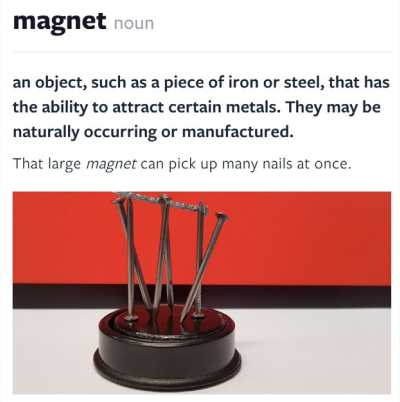
Are you looking to build or enhance your students' vocabulary? Consider one of the three Flocabulary implementations below to meet your classroom, school or district's vocabulary growth goal.

1 Daily vocabulary time

For the most robust implementation, designate a 15-30 minute block of time as "Flocab Vocab Time." The schedule on the right shows a daily integration at the beginning of a Language Arts block. Select the appropriate Word Up level under the Vocabulary section (leveled to the diagnostics test) and complete it over a 14-week period.

Language Arts Block with Word Up
15-minute daily schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Watch video (5 min) Vocab Cards (10 min)	Watch video in discuss mode (10 min) Group quiz (5 min)	Lyric Lab in small groups (15 min)	Watch video (5 min) Independent Read & Respond (10 min)	Watch & dance to video (15 min) Individual quiz (10 min)

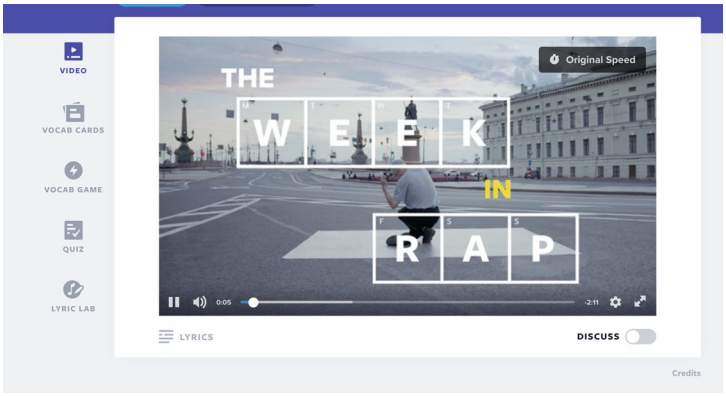


2 Vocabulary in all subjects

Every Flocabulary lesson includes content area (Tier 3) words to aid students in building a strong cross-curricular vocabulary — including math, science, social studies and language arts. Educators can incorporate Flocabulary activities like Vocab Cards (digital graphic organizers) and Lyric Lab (an academic rhyme-writing activity) throughout their instructional sequence, to help students make personal connections to words.

3 The Week in Rap

The Week in Rap is a great way to expose students to new vocabulary words through the lens of current events. Every Thursday, a new Week in Rap (grades 6-12) and Week in Rap Jr (grades 3-5) are released. Show the videos on Friday morning to teach vocabulary in a real-world context or as a springboard to persuasive writing.



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Overview: Vocabulary Development

There is no better predictor for achievement across the curriculum than the size of a student's vocabulary. Flocabulary lessons across all subjects emphasize content-area vocabulary because vocabulary knowledge unlocks meaning and aids comprehension. Vocabulary is also a key building block of literacy and builds a foundation for listening, speaking, reading and writing. Every Flocabulary lesson weaves vocabulary instruction and practice throughout so that students are building the vocabulary they need to succeed.

A focus on Tier 2 (robust academic) vocabulary

For teachers who want to make an investment in direct vocabulary instruction, Flocabulary developed a targeted vocabulary program, Word Up. Word Up is a research-based approach that teaches interdisciplinary (Tier 2) vocabulary to help students with reading and literacy. With close to 140 instructional lessons for grades K-8, Word Up teaches 1,445 words that were taken directly from state tests. Multiple exposures are key to learning new vocabulary, which is why Word Up utilizes eight varied exposures in the lesson sequence. These include traditional exposures like reading passages and use in a sentence, but also include exposure through music and rhyme in our engaging hip-hop videos. There are also 11 lessons for the SAT/ACT vocabulary.

Engaging resources for enabling mastery

Flocabulary's instructional sequence is consistent across every lesson. While each activity can be used independently, the full sequence provides students with a natural progression of content introduction to mastery of the material. With every Flocabulary activity, students create relevant connections to rigorous academic content. All activities are available in digital or printable format for maximum flexibility.

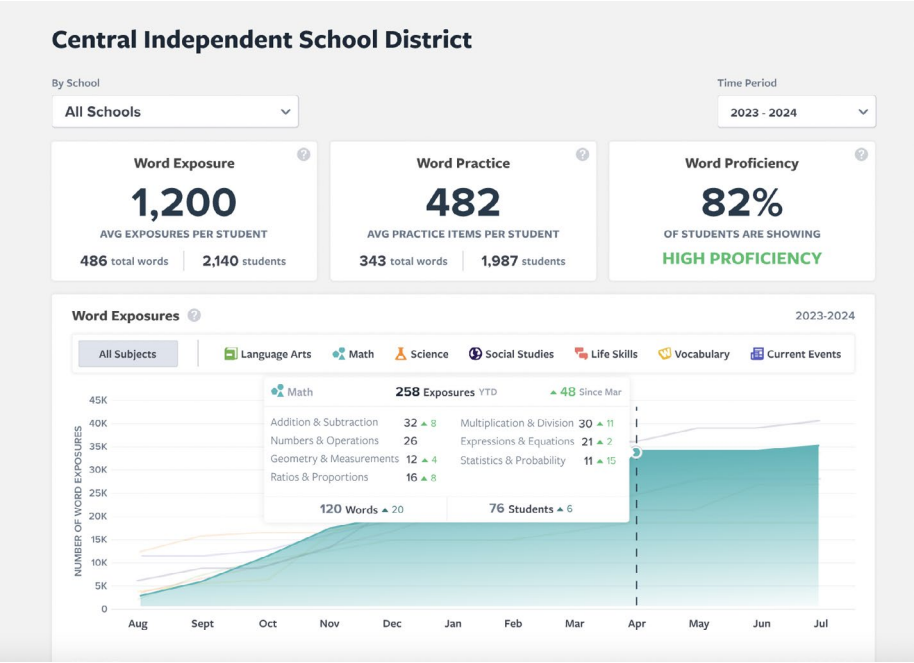
- **Video:** Engage all learners with a video that uses hip-hop, storytelling, and humor to teach key content, vocab, and skills
- **Vocab Cards:** Build word knowledge by writing and drawing key words from the lesson
- **Vocab Game:** Test knowledge of each vocab word with a variety of practice opportunities
- **Break It Down*:** Cite evidence to support responses to key questions from the lesson
- **Read & Respond:** Practice reading comprehension with passages and text-dependent questions
- **Quiz:** Assess comprehension of key content and vocabulary
- **Lyric Lab:** Demonstrate mastery through rhyme writing

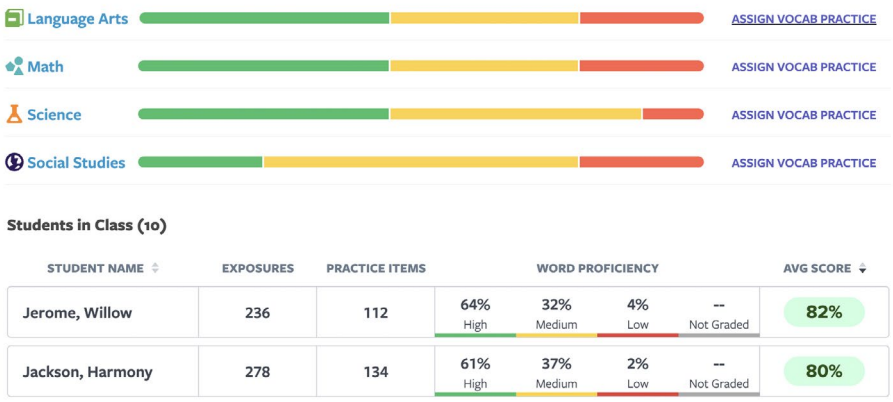
*Features included in Flocabulary Plus accounts

Powerful analytics and personalized practice sets

Throughout each Flocabulary lesson, students gain exposure to content areas and interdisciplinary vocabulary words and targeted practice opportunities to build their word proficiency. As students complete Flocabulary activities, teachers can view analytics to assess students' vocabulary proficiency across subject areas. From their dashboard, teachers can view class trends and commonly missed words, as well as drill down for insights into individual student performance. After analyzing the data, teachers assign personalized vocabulary practice sets to students within any subject. These practice sets provide each student with study and practice materials for a unique list of vocabulary words based on their individual proficiency levels, facilitating data-driven instruction and empowering teachers to provide each student with targeted instruction.

**Vocabulary reporting and practice features are available with a Flocabulary Plus district account*







Overview: Lower Elementary (K-2)

Research shows that an early investment in vocabulary development, reading comprehension and foundational math skills can yield dramatic results for students in the classroom and beyond. Increasingly, we're also learning the importance of Social Emotional Learning (SEL) and whole student instruction in the early grades.

Many educators working with early learners struggle to identify age-appropriate resources to help students develop the vocabulary, reading comprehension and math skills that will help them succeed alongside essential social emotional skills. With Flocabulary, academic vocabulary, content knowledge and social emotional skills are incorporated across the curriculum to help students develop these skills through the school day.

Accessible features for early learners

For early learners in particular, slower playback speeds, engaging in peer dialogue, and writing and drawing about the content are powerful learning aids. Teachers can tailor Flocabulary lessons to meet student needs by slowing down the video, activating discussion mode with time-pegged prompts for students to “turn and talk”, drawing connections between the content they’re learning and their own experiences and assigning relevant activities. *Accessible features would also include Microsoft Immersive reader available in all activities.*



Implementation Guide

Lower Elementary

Three approaches for engaging young learners

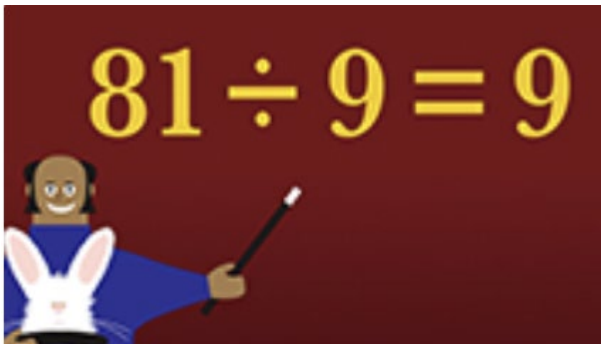
Are you looking to support students in grades K-2 with Flocabulary? Consider one of the three implementations below to support early learners in front of classroom or workstation learning.

1 Develop vocabulary through Word Up

Language Arts Block with Word Up
15-minute daily schedule

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Watch video (5 min) Vocab Cards (10 min)	Watch video in discuss mode (10 min) Group quiz (5 min)	Lyric Lab in small groups (15 min)	Watch video (5 min) Independent Read & Respond (10 min)	Watch & dance to video (15 min) Individual quiz (10 min)

Word Up, our award-winning vocabulary program, is scaffolded by grade level. Many educators use Word Up lessons as their vocabulary program, with students gaining 140 Tier 2 words over the course of 14 weeks. Storytelling is a powerful way to engage young learners, which is why each video follows a narrative with 8-10 vocabulary words embedded in the context of the story. Educators can reinforce these new vocabulary words by having students complete the corresponding instructional activities. This includes customizable vocab cards where students add their own definitions, sentences and images.



2 Build early math skills

While our library has math content ranging from geometry and measurement to statistics and probability, our collection of addition and subtraction math videos are a perfect fit for grades K-2. The lessons are lively and positive, and great for building early mathematical fluency.

3 Social emotional learning (SEL)

Our collection of social and emotional learning lessons cover everything from managing frustration to building empathy and a sense of community in your classroom, for even the youngest of students. Here are a few of our favorites for grades K-2:

- Joining In & Including Others
- Managing Frustration
- Building Empathy
- Managing Worry



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Overview: Current Events in the Classroom

Actively engaging students in current events across the curriculum helps them grow, both as students and as young citizens of the world. It gives students the opportunity to make sense of the world and their place in it by encouraging them to explore unfamiliar people and places, make connections between diverse stories, and form their own opinions about world events. The study of current events is an opportunity for students to learn media literacy skills, including evaluating sources, identifying bias, and analyzing a story's point of view.

Current events are also a great way to connect curriculum to the real world, a requirement emphasized across CCSS, ISTE, NGSS and state standards. Through close reading, informational text analysis and constructive dialogue, students strengthen 21st-century skills including critical thinking and communication.

Cross-curricular connections to current events

Finding ways to effectively bring current events into the curriculum can be a challenge. Flocabulary's Week in Rap is an interdisciplinary resource that can be used to practice non-fiction reading skills, learn relevant vocabulary and inspire discussion, all standards-based skills.

Use it in social studies, science or math to connect your content to the real world. Use it in ELA to inspire deeper discussion and as a springboard for writing practice. The Week in Rap Junior (recommended for grades 3-5) and the Week in Rap (recommended for grades 6-12) are published every Thursday evening. Below is a sample of recent stories covered along with the corresponding discussion question.



SCIENCE
Story: How a DNA mutation led crayfish clones to take over Europe
Discussion Question: What might be some advantages of an animal being able to clone itself? What might be some disadvantages?



SOCIAL STUDIES
Story: Using new technology, archaeologists have uncovered thousands of ruins from the Mayan civilizations
Discussion Question: Why is the discovery of ancient structures important? What do you think scientists can learn from it?



LANGUAGE ARTS
Story: A district in Minnesota will drop Harper Lee and Mark Twain from the curriculum due to racial slurs
Discussion Question: Do you agree with the school district's decision, or do you think it is an example of censorship?

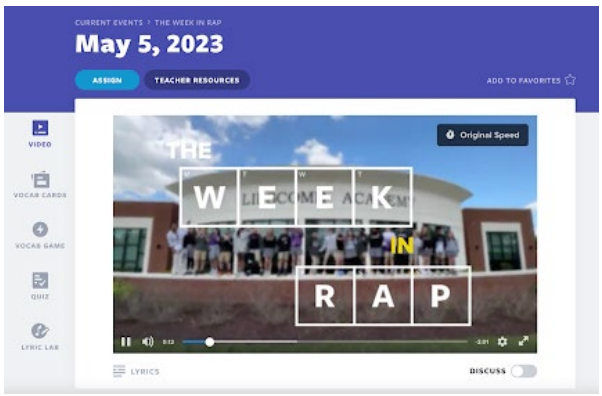


STEAM
Story: The Google Arts & Culture app uses a selfie to match your likeness to famous works of art
Discussion Question: Do you think this app could change the way people think and feel about art? Why or why not?

Three approaches for incorporating current events

Are you looking to bring current events into your classroom? Consider one of the three Flocabulary implementations below to support students in any type of classroom setting and within any teaching approach.

1 #FlocabFriday



For teachers with limited time but who want to incorporate current events into their class, #FlocabFriday is a manageable approach to use. Take 10 minutes every Friday to review the week's news, while at the same time meeting required ELA standards. Watch the video once through and then again in Discuss Mode. A time-pegged prompt will encourage students to think, share and discuss as a group. Time permitting, extension activities get students writing and reading.

2 Week in words



Every Week in Rap highlights 8-10 Tier 2 vocabulary words that have application beyond that week's news—relevant words like "access," "enforce" and "translate" that students will encounter throughout their academic career. Teachers can assign students Vocab Cards (write and draw definitions), Read & Respond (encounter words in context and answer questions) and Lyric Lab (an academic rhyme-writing activity) throughout the week for enriched vocabulary development.

3 Shout-Out Contest

At the end of every Week in Rap, there is a prompt that encourages students to take a deeper dive into one of the week's stories. In Lyric Lab, students can create and submit an original rhyme to answer the prompt. The winning classroom or school is featured at the beginning of an upcoming Week in Rap.





Overview: English Language Learners (ELLs)

While ongoing research will continue to improve pedagogical methods, there are essential instructional approaches that can be applied in classrooms today. These include connecting learning to culturally relevant experiences, actively addressing social and emotional learning alongside academic instruction, and engaging parents.

A focus on accessibility and relevance

Flocabulary's approach to standards-based material makes content engaging and accessible for ELLs—regardless of setting (self-contained, push-in/pull-out, or general classrooms). Across every subject and grade, Flocabulary uses hip-hop to interest students in academically rigorous content. Through multisensory exposures (auditory and visual) and diverse instructional activities, Flocabulary reinforces content area knowledge and essential Tier 2 and Tier 3 vocabulary development. In addition to core subjects, teachers can utilize Flocabulary to support ELLs in social emotional learning, financial literacy, explicit vocabulary development and current events.

Accessible features for ELLs

For ELLs in particular, memorable rhymes, slower playback speeds and closed captioning are powerful learning aids. Teachers can tailor the experience to students' needs by slowing down the video, activating the text-to-speech feature, and assigning relevant reading and writing activities associated with the lesson.

Audio and visual elements within every video

- Captions: connect audio to words visually
- Slower speeds: scaffold audio to 3 levels
- Printable lyrics: follow along with lyrics

Sitewide features for supporting ELLs

- Text-to-speech: provide verbal scaffolding
- Discuss Mode: prompt peer-to-peer discussion
- Vocab Cards: write and draw words

[1] NCES, "English Language Learners," https://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/pdf/Indicator_CGF/COE_CGF_2013_05.pdf
[2] NEA, "English Language Learners Face Unique Challenges," http://www.nea.org/assets/docs/HE/ELL_Policy_Brief_Fall_08_(2).pdf
[3] Kids Count Data Center, https://datacenter.kidscount.org/

Overview: The State of Special Education in the US

In 1975, Congress passed the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), which mandates that all children-regardless of ability or needs—have access to a "free and appropriate education." The act established many of the requirements that are still in place today: Individualized Education Plans (IEPs), appropriate evaluation processes, and ensuring student placement in the Least Restrictive Environment (LRE). In the 2014-15 school year, programs covered by IDEA served 6.6 million students, representing 13% of all public school enrollees.

Before IDEA, only one in five students with disabilities were served by US public schools with many states excluding deaf, blind or "emotionally disturbed" students by law. While we've come a long way from the pre-IDEA days, there are still gaps in making education accessible for all. Educators need access to resources that will allow them to effectively differentiate and meet all learners where they are—regardless of ability or needs.

A focus on accessibility for all learners

Finding ways to engage all types of learners in the classroom can be a challenge. Flocabulary's multimodal approach to standards-based instruction (hip-hop songs, compelling visuals and opportunities for interaction and creativity) offers a variety of entry points to teaching the relevant curriculum. Music provides a powerful foundation for learners of all abilities to access and connect with academically rigorous content. Flocabulary's scaffolded and supportive structure ensures all students are able to learn and are motivated to create.

Educators use Flocabulary to support the three principles of Universal Design for Learning (UDL):

1. Provide Multiple Means of Representation	2. Provide Multiple Means of Action and Expression	3. Provide Multiple Means of Engagement
All subject area content includes visual, auditory, text and musical structures	Discuss Mode promotes peer-to-peer discussion through critical thinking and self-reflection questions	Hip-hop speaks authentically to students, generating excitement and interest
Vocabulary words are presented in multiple contexts with the words rephrased and repeated to maximize retention	Lyric Lab offers an alternative approach to applying knowledge through academic rhyme writing	Read & Respond provides reading passages and associated comprehension questions that provide immediate feedback
	Students can dance and sing along to videos	Social emotional learning content provides classwide strategies for self-modulation

[1] NCES, "Children and Youth with Disabilities," https://nces.ed.gov/programs/coe/indicator_cgg.asp
[2] US Department of Education, "25 Years of Progress in Educating Students with Disabilities Through IDEA," https://www2.ed.gov/policy/speced/leg/idea/history.pdf

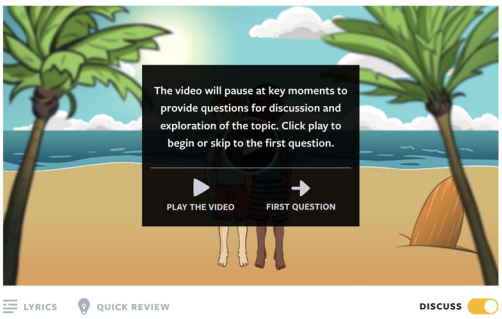
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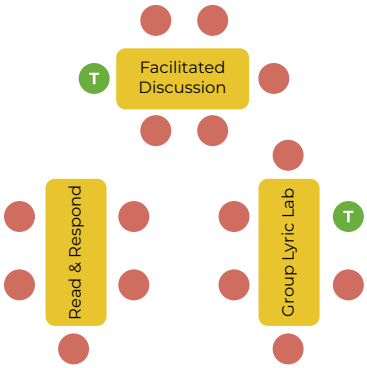
Three approaches for supporting learning differences

Are you looking to support students with a variety of needs? Consider one of the three implementations below to support students across classrooms and teaching styles.

1 Scaffolding subject-area content



We recommend beginning a Flocabulary lesson by previewing printed lyrics, making connections to students' background knowledge and identifying key vocabulary. Play the video once through on original speed and ask students to signal when they hear key vocabulary words. After the initial viewing, consider playing the video again at a slower speed in Discuss Mode-encouraging students to share information as a group. Kinesthetic activity (dancing or clapping) can also assist in keeping students engaged and maintaining focus.



Example classroom station setup

2 Learn in stations

While whole group instruction can be great for introducing content, stations can help educators tailor instruction in smaller group settings. Vocab Cards (students write and draw for each key vocabulary word), Read & Respond (students complete text-dependent questions after reading short passages) and Lyric Lab (a rhyme-writing tool) offer differentiated small group activities.

3 Social emotional learning (SEL)

For all students, learning about and practicing social emotional skills are essential components to their development as scholars and as people. It can be especially helpful to have that content explicitly presented in an engaging and accessible way. This content, spanning internet safety, conflict resolution, time management, and financial literacy, is available under "Life Skills" on the Flocabulary website.



Overview: Social Emotional Learning (SEL)

Over the last few years, there's been a lot of talk in education circles about social emotional learning (SEL). While many educators can recount the impact they've seen SEL have on their students, a growing body of research is quantifying its impact. A 2015 study published in the Journal of American Health followed a group of 800 children from kindergarten to their mid-20s, and found a strong correlation between a child's social skills at age 5 and measures of achievement such as college graduation.[1] Meanwhile, a meta study of 213 studies found that students who participated in SEL programs showed an 11 percentile-point gain in academic achievement.[2]

So, what exactly is SEL? According to the Collaborative for Academic, Social, and Emotional Learning (CASEL), effective SEL programming is coordinated across three contexts (classrooms, schools and home) and focuses on five skills: self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills and responsible decision-making. CASEL'S SEL pinwheel is a widely used framework for effective SEL programming.



The qualitative and quantitative impact of SEL instruction has led to a large emphasis on its inclusion across the curriculum, with some states incorporating the tenets into their standards. Yet, many educators struggle to find the time and resources to adequately incorporate it. Flocabulary gives educators 25 explicit SEL lessons (with more to come) as well as features across all 1,000 lessons aimed to cultivate SEL skills in every grade level and subject area.

It's all about engagement

SEL instruction can be challenging for educators to implement for a number of reasons. Whether it's a lack of time, resources or student engagement, Flocabulary provides a flexible way to make SEL exciting and relevant for every learner. When SEL topics are engaging for students and easy for educators to teach, it transforms classroom climate and culture and boosts every learner's ability to achieve both in and out of the classroom.

> **My go-to beginning of the year lessons have an SEL focus. I teach elementary school and I feel this is a fantastic way to get the students engaged with Flocabulary as well as establish our classroom norms/expectations and review the many concepts that will support our academic success throughout the school year.**

-Danielle Marriaga, Third Grade Teacher in Florida

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Three approaches for incorporating SEL

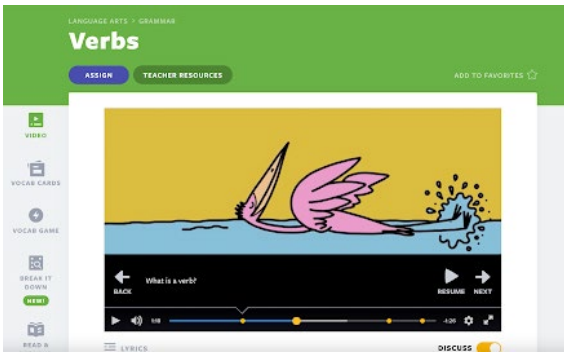
Are you looking to support SEL initiatives with Flocabulary? A common way to incorporate SEL into the classroom is for educators to deliver lessons that focus explicitly on SEL topics (#1) and then weave in opportunities to reinforce those skills throughout the day (#2 and #3).

1 Build classroom culture with a beat



When students' interests are reflected and respected in the classroom, engagement increases, even for the most reluctant learners. Our growing library of SEL content equips educators with relevant content for SEL lessons. Educators can then use the features in 2 and 3 (below) to reinforce those skills throughout the day in any Flocabulary lesson. Our SEL lessons include: Joining In & Including Others, Managing Frustration, Perspectives on Race, Conflict Resolution, Growth Mindset and many more.

2 Cultivate meaningful discussion with Discuss Mode



Every Flocabulary video includes Discuss Mode, which challenges students to think critically about a topic by engaging with their peers in an active discussion. When Discuss Mode is on, time-pegged questions will appear during the video that ask students to make connections to themselves and the world. Educators can either choose to model respectful dialogue by facilitating a whole class discussion or have students practice peer-to-peer listening and speaking skills by 'turning and talking' to a partner.

3 Elevate student voice with Lyric Lab

Empower students to share the skills and strategies they've learned through a creative rhyme writing activity: Lyric Lab. By writing and performing an original rhyme (through spoken word or as a rap), students will have an opportunity to authentically collaborate with peers, deepen their vocabulary through wordplay, build a long-lasting relationship with the content, gain confidence in performing, and learn the importance of revision and editing. Ultimately, Lyric Lab moves students' Flocabulary experience from engaging to empowering—a culminating moment for their SEL skills.

Unlock Comprehension with Flocabulary!

Log in today to get started.
flocabulary.com

