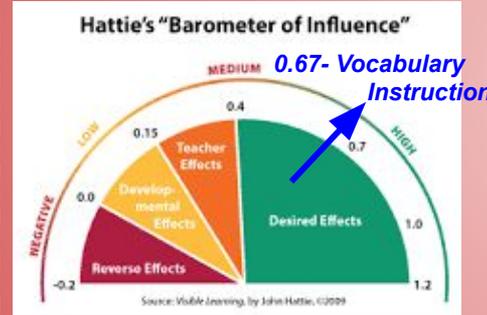


# Academic Vocabulary Word of the Week: Debate

## What?

Academic Vocabulary words are **FREQUENTLY** used across all subjects and grades for assessments, discussions, and activities. Mastery of these words is crucial for academic success with all students.

## Why?



Hattie's Barometer of Influence shows that teaching vocabulary has a very strong learning effect size of 0.67, well within the range of desired effects (*whoot whoot, look at you go rocking that vocabulary instruction*).

Word learning requires not just exposure, but also repetition, contextualization, and **authentic** reasons to use the terminology. (Fisher, Frey, & Hattie)

*Be the reason someone learns a new word today!*

## How?

Mastery of vocabulary is as simple as repetitively and intentionally practicing the words. This happens by embedding the words in discussions, writing using the words, playing games with the words, word learning activities, and understanding how these words are used in directions for tasks or assessments. This repetition builds word consciousness and comprehension.

## Word of the Week Activity:

1. Complete the graphic organizer and add to the "Words my Way Journal" to learn all about the word: Debate. (slide #7)
2. Hold a debate in your class using the options on, "It's Debatable!" (slide #6).

# Academic Vocabulary Word of the Week Home Connection: Debate

Dear Parents,

The Word of the Week currently is DEBATE. While this may initially spark notions of fear for you, please bear with me. There are some major benefits to teaching your child how to respectfully & formally debate. It is not an emotional screaming match! Debating helps students learn how to investigate new ideas, develop their critical thinking skills, develop empathy, enhance communication skills, and learn how to see alternate points of view. All people are able to develop mastery of a subject when they are able to teach it to another.

An organized debate with your child is a great way to exercise their minds and show you just how smart they are! Play devil's advocate with them to help them refine their thoughts. Create situations where your child must organize their thoughts and present them in a logical fashion, based on facts, so that they are able to spar back and forth with you, a logical, trusted adult in their life. Don't be afraid to point out inconsistencies or flaws in their arguments either but be sure that both parties maintain respectful demeanors at all times. The following are some suggested topics for debate:

1. Debate about a topic seen on the evening news
2. Debate about a character's actions, good or bad, in a story
3. Debate about a topic suggested by your child (example: All kids should be allowed to \_\_\_\_.)
4. Debate about the usefulness or benefits of random items seen in ads, commercials, or youtube.
5. Debate about the most appropriate consequences for actions

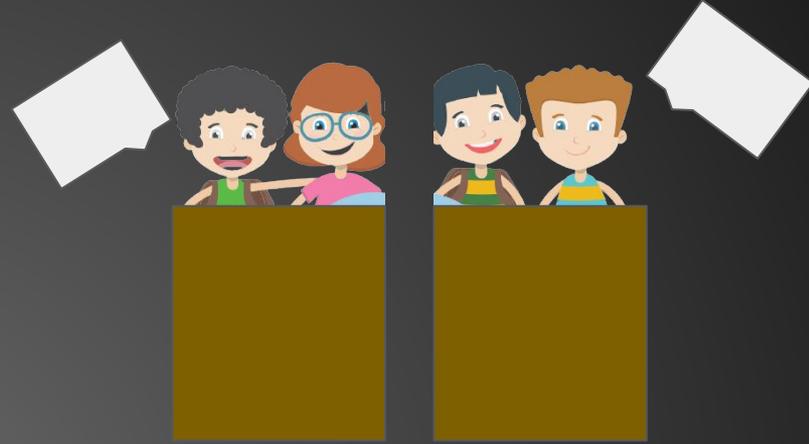
Here are some articles about teaching debate skills to your child:

- [How to Prepare your Child for Debates](#)
- [Debating improves Critical Thinking Skills](#)
- [Stanford- Teaching Debate Skills](#)

## Vocabulary Resource Links:

1. [Vocabulary - RUNDLE](#)  
All Rundle Vocabulary activities, past & present, featured here; check them out!
2. [Sunrise Library](#)
3. [Vocabulary games and information](#)  
play games and create word consciousness

# Debate



de·bate

/də' bāt/

Part of  
Speech:  
Verb

**Latin roots: battreur , 13th Century “Old French:” debatre**

- De: down, completely
- Batre: to beat

de+bat(r)e= to beat completely

## Definition:

1. A discussion between two people or groups who disagree on a subject.

// Team Reveur won the debate because they spoke well and gave a lot of facts to support their argument.

# Synonyms:

discuss  
exchange of views on  
argue, argue the pros and cons of  
dispute  
wrangle over  
altercate  
sparring  
negotiate  
comment  
contest  
confer about  
talk over  
talk through  
talk about  
exchange views about  
argue the pros and cons of  
contend over  
controvert



# Antonyms:

agree  
harmony  
accept  
reach consensus  
disregard  
ignore  
be of the same opinion or view  
affiliate with  
align with  
ally  
see eye to eye  
unite  
acquiesce  
accede to



# Let's practice using sentence stems for debating!

- I can debate that \_\_\_\_\_.
- I will debate that \_\_\_\_\_.
- I debate that \_\_\_\_\_.
- I am debating that \_\_\_\_\_.
- Based on \_\_\_ I can debate that \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ is debatable.



# It's Debatable!

**Purpose:** Provide all students with an opportunity to explore a topic, establish debating procedures, and debate a stance. When students are debating they are able to build skills in reading, writing, listening, & speaking!

## Debate Options for the Classroom



Definition:

Write a sentence using the Academic Vocabulary Word:

Word:

Illustration:

Synonyms:

Antonyms:

(Greek or Latin) Roots of the word: