



## Expose Children to Rare and Unusual Vocabulary

A great way to enhance children's future understanding of subjects like science, history, geography and math is to highlight more advanced, rare vocabulary in your day-to-day conversations. Here are some fun ways to include unusual words throughout your day:

### Play Time

As you and the child play with animal figurines, introduce more advanced words to describe the animals, then explain what it means. For example, if the child is playing with a cheetah say, "The cheetah is **slender**. Slender means the cheetah's body is skinny. Being slender helps the cheetah run fast."



### Daily Activities

If the child has mud or dirt on their hands, introduce a new word like **grimy**. Point to the dirt on their hands as you explain the meaning of the new word - "Oooh, your hands are **grimy**! You have so much dirt all over your hands - they are so grimy! Let's wash it off."

### On the Go

If the child points out a bird's nest while you're outside, expand the child's vocabulary by using a rare word like **habitat**. Point to the nest as you say, "Look! A nest is part of a bird's natural **habitat**. A habitat is where an animal lives. Birds live in nests, so the nest is its habitat."



### Book Reading

When reading a book together, build on what the child tells you using more sophisticated vocabulary. For example, if the child comments on a character who is very upset and says, "He's crying," respond with, "Yes, he's crying because he lost his cape. He's **devastated** that he's lost his cape. Devastated means he is very, very upset."

### Notes