

Activity 2: Vocabulary Mini-Book

Let your child cut apart the pages from the "Vocabulary Mini-Book" and put them in order according to the page numbers. As he reads the last half of the book, he will locate the words and write them in context using a sentence from the book. Then he will record the dictionary definition of the word and write his own sentence using each word. In the box, he can draw a simple graphic or illustration to help him remember the word.

As your child continues to read the chapters in the book, encourage him to locate new words he does not know and to make a page for them, too. Before he begins, ask him to pronounce each vocabulary word. Show him the correct pronunciation of words in the dictionary. Demonstrate how to use the dictionary to find the correct pronunciation of two or three words familiar to your child, and then let him find the pronunciation of the new vocabulary words.



The following answer key shows the first quotation using each vocabulary word. Some words are used more than once, so other sentences are possible. The definition should be similar to the one provided. Sentences and illustrations will vary.

Answer Key:

- ladle: "Grandpa skims it with a big, long handled, wooden ladle that he made of basswood."
Definition — large long-handled spoon with a cup-shaped bowl
- bugle: "When supper was over, Uncle George went outside the door and blew his army bugle, long and loud."
Definition — a brass instrument like a small trumpet
- petticoats: "Then Aunt Ruby and Aunt Docia put on their flannel petticoats and their plain petticoats and their stiff, starched white petticoats with knitted lace all around the flounces."
Definition: light, loose undergarments hanging from the shoulders or the waist, worn under a skirt or dress
- glimpses: "After a long time Laura began to see glimpses of blue water between the trees."
Definition — momentary or partial views
- greedy: "And another time, don't be so greedy." or "She did not mind very much when Pa laughed at her for being such a greedy little girl that she took more than she could carry away."
Definition — having or showing an intense and selfish desire for something
- whetstone: "He could fetch the whetstone when the blades needed sharpening."
Definition — a fine-grained stone used for sharpening cutting tools
- sumac: "Along the rail fence the sumac held up its dark red cones of berries above bright flame-colored leaves."
Definition — type of tree, shrub, or woody vine that has leaves turning to brilliant colors in the autumn, small flowers, and loose clusters of red or whitish berries
- chaff: "And chaff and dust blew over everything."
Definition — the outer part or husk of wheat, oat, or other grains

Vocabulary Mini-Book

Directions: Cut apart the boxes and put them in order by page number. Then for each word you will record the sentence from the book, the definition from the dictionary, and your own sentence using the word. Draw a simple illustration to help you remember the word.

ladle		p. 125
Sentence from book: _____ _____ _____		Illustration 
Definition: _____ _____ _____		
New Sentence: _____ _____ _____		
glimpses		p. 163
Sentence from book: _____ _____ _____		Illustration 
Definition: _____ _____ _____		
New Sentence: _____ _____ _____		

sumac

p. 215

Sentence from book: _____

Definition: _____

New Sentence: _____

Illustration

bugle

p. 137

Sentence from book: _____

Definition: _____

New Sentence: _____

Illustration

chaff

p. 226

Sentence from book: _____

Definition: _____

New Sentence: _____

Illustration

greedy

p. 175

Sentence from book: _____

Definition: _____

New Sentence: _____

Illustration

petticoats

p. 140

Sentence from book: _____

Definition: _____

New Sentence: _____

Illustration

whetstone

p. 204

Sentence from book: _____

Definition: _____

New Sentence: _____

Illustration