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| **Academic Vocabulary –** The keys to the wonderland of understanding | **A keychain with a keyring attached to it  Description automatically generated** |

**What Does the research reveal?**

* **Vocabulary instruction must be direct (explicit).** Explicit vocabulary instruction includes an easy-to-understand definition presented directly to students along with multiple examples and nonexamples of the target word, brief discussion opportunities, and checks for understanding.
* **Vocabulary instruction must include multiple opportunities for each student  to use words within and across subjects**. That is, instruction must be extended over time with opportunities for students to hear, speak, read, and write words in various contexts. This builds students’ breadth and depth of vocabulary knowledge.
* **Vocabulary should be taught schoolwide as a PLC in all content areas.** Each subject has a unique set of vocabulary terms, and students need to know their meanings and how to use them in various contexts.

National Center for Educational Evaluation and Regional Assistance, U.S. Department of Education, 2018

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| **A Six-Step Process** **for Teaching New Terms** |

**Step 1:** Guide students to develop a description, explanation, or example of the new term.

**Step 2:** Ask students to restate the description, explanation, or example in their own words.

**Step 3:** Ask students to construct a picture, symbol, or graphic representing the term or phrase.

**Step 4:** Engage students periodically in activities that help them add to their knowledge of the terms in their notebooks.

**Step 5:** Periodically ask students to discuss the terms with one another.

**Step 6:** Involve students periodically in games that allow them to plan with terms.

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|  | A strategy board with text  Description automatically generated with medium confidence |