

Vocabulary in Reading Study (VIRS) - User Documentation (v 6.0)

Overview & Purpose

VIRS v 6.0 is a reading-vocabulary learning platform designed to help K-12 learners build academic and general vocabulary through an app and website interface. The core goal is efficient lexical development using corpora-based, color-coded word selection.

Getting Started

Logging In / Accessing the Site:

- Navigate to the VIRS homepage, click "Login/Register."
- New users can sign up with email and setup a profile; existing users log in.

Dashboard Interface:

- After login, users see their dashboard displaying a personalized word list, progress indicators, and navigation menu.

Core Features

Color-Coded Word Lists:

- Words are categorized by frequency: high, mid, low, plus academic and STEM lists.
- Color-coding helps learners focus on priority vocabulary.

Word Details & Definitions:

- Clicking a word shows Lemma, example sentences, and a K-12-level definition.

Practice Activities:

- Interactive exercises: matching, fill-ins, sorting, recognition tasks.

Progress Tracking & Reports:

- Track mastery, quiz scores, and download reports.

Instructional Support Tools

Word Maps & Visuals:

- Definition, synonyms, antonyms, examples, and images.

Word Walls & Word Roots:

- Printable displays and root-based grouping.

Strategy Guides:

- Scaffolded tips using context clues and morphology.

Instructional Workflow Recommendation

1. Select Words
2. Preview & Plan
3. Engage with Lessons/Quizzes
4. Review & Practice
5. Assess & Reflect

Helpful Tips & Best Practices

- Use explicit teaching and strategy instruction.
- Provide active participation and repeated exposure.
- Monitor and adapt with assessments.

For Educators & Administrators

- Align word selection with curriculum.
- Prepare materials in advance.
- Use platform reports for progress tracking.

Glossary of Terms

Lemma: The base form of a word.

Corpus: K-12 text corpora used for word frequency.

Tier-2 Words: Academic/general vocabulary for instruction.

Word Map: Organizer connecting word, definition, synonyms.

Word Wall: Visual display for vocabulary.

Troubleshooting & Support

- Refresh page or check internet if word details are missing.
- Clear cache or try another browser if platform is slow.
- Contact support via the Help section or email.

Additional Resources

- Research-based strategies for vocabulary instruction available via Reading Rockets, TextProject, and academic publications.