

12 POWERFUL WORDS

What do we mean by powerful words? These are the words that stump students when they take standardized tests like the CRCT. Students may feel intimidated or confused by these words causing them to answer a question incorrectly, when they know the answer.

What is Creekland Middle School doing with these words? Teachers, administrators and staff will be promoting these 12 powerful words with our students. The words will be used consistently in the classroom and throughout the school.

What can you do? Check out the words below and use them with your child on a daily basis. Ask your child to use the words in their written responses to homework. Have your child make up their own questions utilizing these words. By incorporating these words in your child's daily life you will be helping to boost their academic achievement.

12 Powerful Words

WORD	STUDENT FRIENDLY PHRASE
1. Trace	List in steps
2. Analyze	Break apart
3. Infer	Read between the lines
4. Evaluate	Judge
5. Formulate	Create
6. Describe	Tell all about,
7. Support	Back up with details
8. Explain	Tell how
9. Summarize	Give me the short version
10. Compare	All the ways they are alike
11. Contrast	All the ways they are different
12. Predict	What will happen next

12 Powerful Words to Success, Unraveling a paragraph, and Unraveling a Math Question

It is hard to answer a question in any subject if you do not know what the question means or is asking! Creekland Middle School will be using the following 12 Power Words this school year. These words are used frequently in many tests and assessments given throughout the school year. Among these tests are OAS frameworks, the benchmark, and the CRCT. Use of these words goes beyond high school, into college and throughout life.

We want our students to become exposed to these words, understand their meaning, and feel comfortable using them correctly. By learning these words, we feel it will cause the student to think at the highest possible level; they will feel less intimidated by them and also have less test anxiety before testing. Listed below are two tables of useful ways to "Unraavel" reading passages in all subjects, including Math.

12 Powerful Words to Success

Power Word	Meaning
Trace	List in steps; outline
Analyze	Break apart
Infer	Read Between the lines
Evaluate	Judge
Formulate	Create
Describe	Tell all about
Support	Back up with details
Explain	Tell how
Summarize	Give me the short version
Compare	All the ways they are alike
Contrast	All the ways they are different
Predict	What will happen next

"Unraaveling" a paragraph

<u>U</u> nderline title
<u>N</u> ow predict the passage
<u>R</u> un through and number paragraphs
<u>A</u> re you reading the questions?
<u>A</u> re the important words circled? (Write down their meaning)
<u>V</u> enture (read) through the passage
<u>E</u> liminate the obviously wrong answers
<u>L</u> et the questions be answered and write the paragraph # where you found the answers next to the question
✓✓ Double check your work!

MATH UNRAAVEL

Underline the question

Now predict what you need to do to solve the problem

Read the word problem

Are the important words circled?

(Especially the clue words?)

Apply the steps you chose to solve the problem

Verify your answer

(Is it reasonable? Does it make sense?)

Eliminate the wrong answers

Let the answer stay or rework the problem

✓✓ Double check your work!