

12 POWERFUL WORDS



The 12 powerful words are displayed throughout academic content and are designed to promote higher order thinking skills. Our teachers are using these 12 powerful words in instruction, assessments, and daily conversations. Please review these words with your child to develop a deeper knowledge of academic vocabulary and to instill confidence in responding to high order thinking questions and tasks.

The 12 Powerful Words are:

1. **Trace** - outline
2. **Analyze** - break it down
3. **Infer** - read between the lines
4. **Evaluate** - judge
5. **Formulate** - build & create
6. **Describe** - tell me all about it
7. **Support** - back it up
8. **Explain** - tell me why
9. **Summarize** - the short version
10. **Compare** - things that are alike
11. **Contrast** - things that are different
12. **Predict** - think about the future