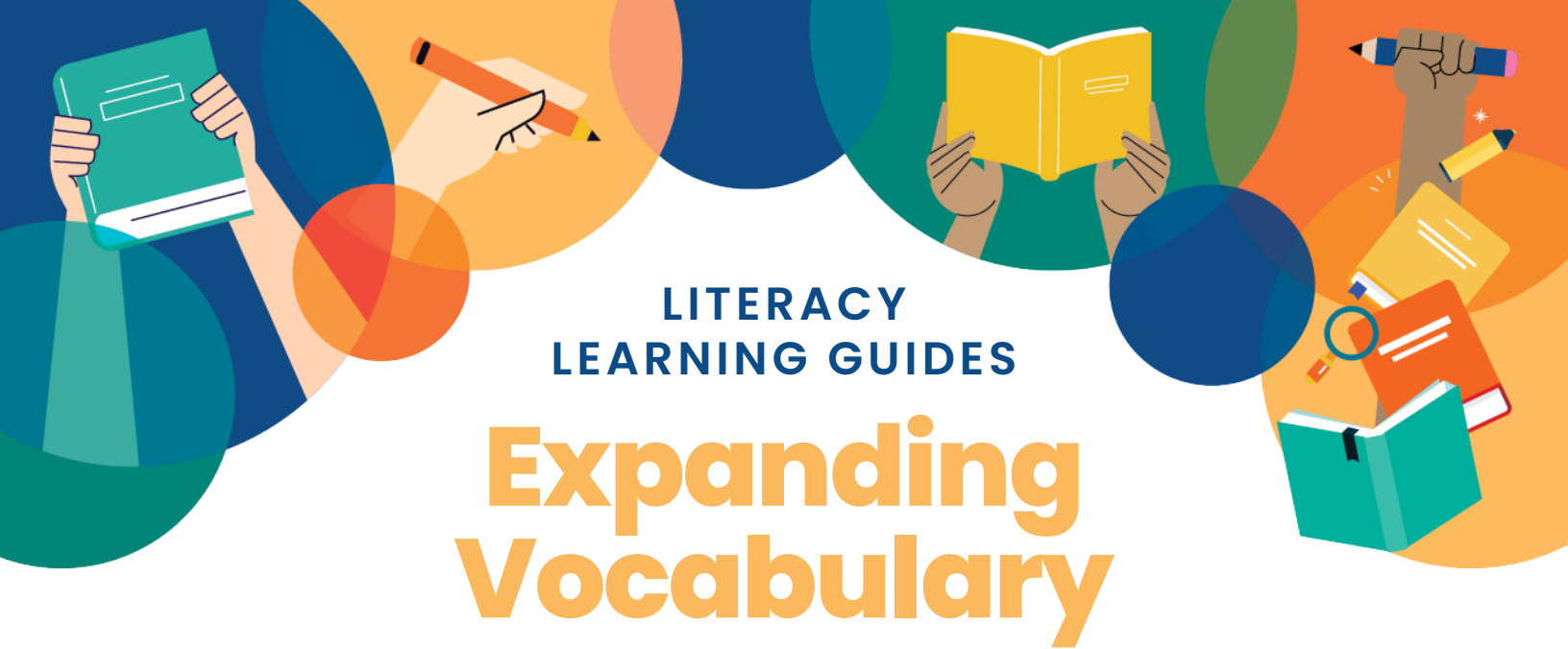




LITERACY LEARNING GUIDES

Expanding Vocabulary

Practice vocab in different ways

When helping your child study new vocabulary, know that he has to work with each word multiple times, in various ways, and over several days. Use some of these strategies to help make word meanings stick.

PROVIDE AN EXPLANATION:

Ask him for an in-your-own-words explanation using one of these sentence starters.

It is something...

It is a concept...

It is the idea that...

It explains...

It is someone...

It describes...

GIVE EXAMPLES:

Ask her to give some examples of this word. She might consider:

- Life experiences.
- Stories, anecdotes.
- Scenarios, hypothetical situations.
- Visuals, videos, real-life objects.
- Current events, pop culture.

IDENTIFY SYNONYMS & ANTONYMS:

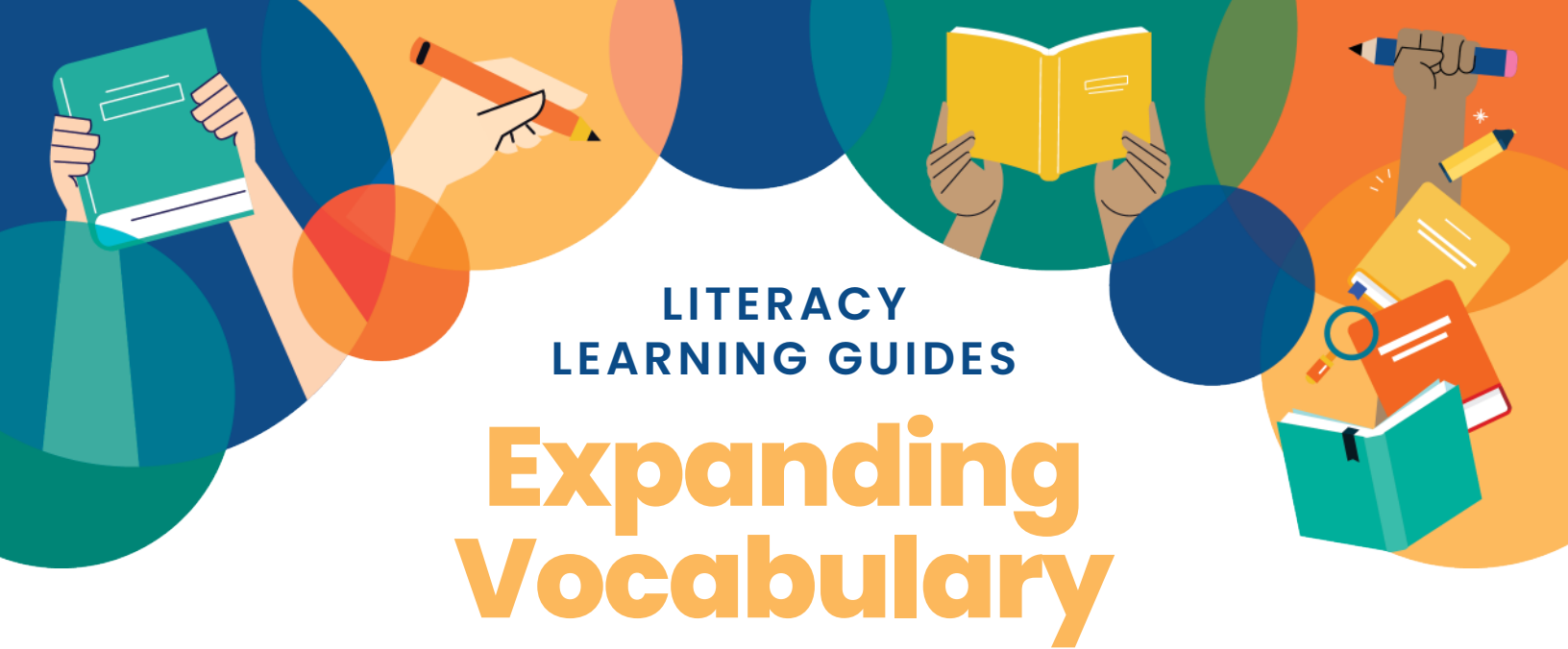
Ask him to brainstorm words that have a similar and/or opposite meaning.



LOOK INSIDE THE WORD:

Ask her if she recognizes parts of the word. *Does the prefix, suffix, or base give any clues as to what the word means?*





LITERACY LEARNING GUIDES

Expanding Vocabulary

Practice vocab in different ways (*cont'd*)

ACT IT OUT:

Ask him to “be” the word. Kids who are action-oriented learn word definitions by using their bodies to portray the word’s meaning.

CREATE A MNEMONIC DEVICE:

Provide a catchphrase or simple memory trick to help students remember a word’s meaning.

- An acute angle is the cute “little one” on a triangle.
- The *principal* is everyone’s *pal* at school.
- It’s hard to go on vacation when you have a vocation.



DRAW THE WORD’S MEANING:

Create a sketch that represents the word.

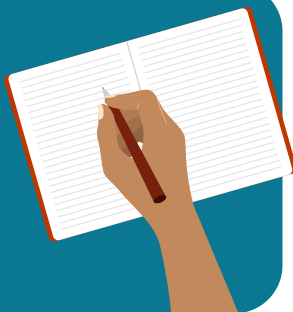


USE IT IN A SENTENCE:

Use the word in a variety of sentences that demonstrate its meaning.

WRITE THE WORD:

Don’t just talk about a word. Show your child what it looks like, so she’ll



LOOK UP ITS DEFINITION:

After executing several of the previous strategies, compare your child’s understanding of the vocabulary word to its formal definition in a glossary/dictionary.